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ISSUE 752



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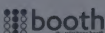
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Would the famed conceptual artist spot his influence on our perpetually under-construction boomtown?

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Repressed college prof befriends illegal Syrian immigrant, defies clichés, in *The Visitor*.

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Your gay dragon fetish is one that will sadly remain unrealized, even in our fuckbot-filled future.

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Comics, crossword, and more.



CADENCE WEAPON

Rollie Pemberton loves his hometown, and he's not afraid to write a record about it.

COVER PHOTO BY AARON PEDERSON



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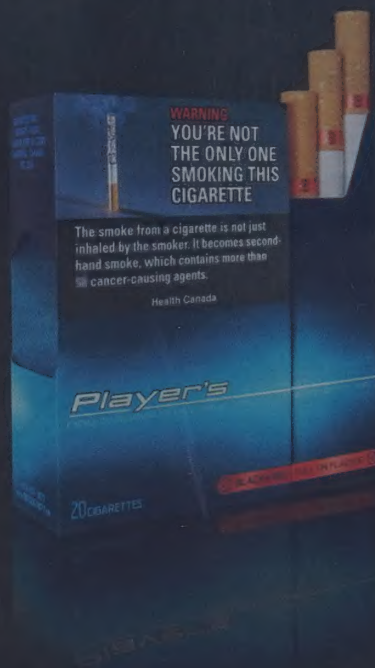
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Wendy McNeill, TransAlta Arts Barns, April 27

APRIL 27

music | **WENDY MCNEILL**
Now that she's exorcised her ghosts (see page 25) and taken Europe by storm, native daughter Wendy McNeill returns from Sweden, accordion and guitar and appealingly idiosyncratic style in tow. TransAlta Arts Barns, as part of Night of Artists.

APRIL 28

film | **RURAL ROUTES**
Thank god or gods or lucky paper clip or whatever. We've been dying to get out of town, and these short films—all banjos and riding lawnmowers and Norwegian dancers—are what we were looking for. Thanks, Metro Cinema: you're good people.

APRIL 29

dance | **ELASTIC PERSPECTIVE REDUX**
"When I went to high school and started learning about artists like Dali, it really influenced my understanding of what hip-hop could be," says Victor Quijada. That sounds like our kind of hip hop. Timms Centre for the Arts, courtesy Brian Webb Dance.

APRIL 30

music | **TIGER ARMY**
We hear this gig is sold out, so you're either holding a ticket, or your going to have to pony up something exotic/valuable/precious in exchange for one. How creative do you need to be? How much do love your California psychobilly? Starline Room.

MAY 1

marching | **MAY DAY MARCH**
Alberta's not exactly a workers' paradise, but it's a couple of steps closer thanks to dedicated (and brave) working people. So would it kill you to march from Tipton Park (6 pm) to Macintyre park to say "thanks for your sacrifice"?

MAY 2

theatre | **COMRADES**
Sterling Award champs Kill Your Television mount a reworked version of Beth Graham and Daniela Valskalic's celebrated *Comrades*, which tells the notorious story of wrongfully executed Italian immigrants Sacco and Vanzetti. Catalyst Theatre, 8 pm.

MAY 3

comics | **FREE COMIC BOOK DAY**
Yahoo! It's been ages since we've seen a *Richie Rich* mag. We haven't decided whether to visit Wizards: Happy Harbour, Warp 1, Metropolis, Comic Fever, or Comic King, but... wait... they're still publishing *Richie Rich*, right? www.freecomicbookday.com

MAY 4

art market | **ROYAL BISON CRAFT AND ART FAIR**
Keyboard cuff links? Locally designed fashion, adorable boxes, zines, music...? All with with an of-the-moment *Je ne sais quoi*? Anyway, forget all that shit: what was that about keyboard cuff links? Old Strathcona Farmer's Market, 10 to 5.

MAY 5

physical exertion | **WALKING**
It's "spring." Is it? Are you sure? You really haven't learned your lesson, hmm? You think because it's May that there won't be a blizzard and sub-zero temperatures tomorrow. Well carpe diem, bitches. Carpe fucking diem.

MAY 6

stage | **CHERISH**
Baby dilemmas...oh, such a headache. Personally, we've done everything we can not to get pregnant/impregnate anyone, but Jess and Maeve and Tom and William are playing baby tug of war. Northern Light Theatre will explain it all at The Third Space, starting at 8 pm.

MAY 7

music | **ZAKIR HUSSAIN**
He's the Mick Jagger of tabla, except no spasmodic gesticulating... just superb tabla playing, which is like "Sympathy for the Devil" without the monotony. You've never been subjected to such thrills by people sitting on the floor. Winspear Centre.

MAY 8

music | **SARAH SLEAN**
Her new album *The Baroness* is either "as boring as ever" (Now) or a "sickly produced collection of pretty piano ballads" (Eye). Meanwhile, opener Royal Wood's recent work is "an immaculately produced record" (Eye). Ah hell... you had us at "Royal Wood." Winspear Centre.



Zakir Hussain, Winspear Centre, May 7

Music | APR 30



HOW CREATIVE DO YOU NEED TO BE? HOW MUCH DO YOU LOVE YOUR CALIFORNIA PSYCHOBILLY?

see magazine's two-week forecast of events in edmonton

listings: news pg 2 | city life pg 20 | music pg 29 | film caps pg 36 | arts pg 40 |

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NEWS FEATURE • FETAL HOMICIDE • BY ANGELA BRUNSCHOT 11,259 words

Separating Mother And Child

BILL C-484 IS A "SNEAKY" ATTEMPT TO CRIMINALIZE ABORTION, SAYS ABORTION RIGHTS COALITION OF CANADA

Before his election as prime minister in 2006, Stephen Harper promised that a Conservative government wouldn't reopen the abortion debate.

And Conservative MP Ken Epp, whose Sherwood Park riding sits just east of Edmonton, promises that his controversial private member's bill doesn't backtrack on that promise.

But women's groups across Canada aren't taking either man at his word.

The Unborn Victims of Crime Bill (C-484) would make the killing of a fetus a separate offence from an attack on a pregnant woman. In other words, someone who murders a pregnant woman would be held responsible for two deaths instead of one. There is no separate offence for the loss of the pregnancy. "It's very sneaky," says Joyce Arthur, national co-ordinator for the Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada. "He is trying to rewrite the Criminal Code definition and allow a fetus to be treated as a person."

Arthur argues that giving a fetus legal status acts as a backdoor route to the criminalization of abortion and potentially many other infringements on women's human rights. And as for Epp's claim that the bill is designed to protect women from harm, she calls that justification "pathetic." The bill does nothing, for instance, to address domestic violence—the root of the problem, as she sees it.

Nor, she continues, does the Conservative track record on feminist issues give women reason to trust them: it was Harper's Conservatives, after all, who excised references to advocacy and the advancement of women's equality from the mandate of Status of Women Canada.

"Ensuring women's equality will go a long way to making them more safe," Arthur says. "If the woman is safe, however we do that—through social supports or whatever—then the fetus is going to be safe too."

Protecting The Unborn

That's not the way Epp sees it. He thinks a separate charge can help protect pregnant women.

The death of 19-year-old Edmontonian Olivia Talbot is a close-to-home example, and the motivating incident for Epp. She was six months pregnant in November 2005 when

a friend, Jared Baker, killed her. Indeed, Baker (who claimed to be acting under the influence of voices) specifically targeted Talbot's child for harm. He was found guilty of first-degree murder and was sentenced to life in prison.

Cases like Talbot's receive a lot of media attention, but in fact, very few pregnant women are killed in Canada. According to Statistics Canada, only 10 pregnant women in total were murdered in Canada between 2005 and 2006.

Judges may take the victim's pregnancy into consideration during sentencing, but Epp doesn't think that only a separate charge will properly protect both woman and their unborn children.

In defending his bill over the past year, he has repeatedly said laying a separate charge for the death of an unborn child will not impinge upon the right of a woman to choose an abortion—and indeed, the bill does include clarifying language stating

that abortion (or any other behaviour a woman chooses to engage in during her pregnancy) would not be considered an attack.

"I chose the wording in my bill very carefully," Epp says, "to reflect what I'm actually seeking to do."

That's a little naive, counters Arthur, who argues that the Supreme Court decision that brought down the old abortion law regarded the fetus as part of a woman's body, and not a separate entity. By separating the two in his new bill, Epp is advancing a position that runs counter to that of the Supreme Court and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"The bill basically gives fetuses a form of personhood," says Arthur. "It's giving them a separate status apart from the mother, and the moment you do that, whatever else you say about that, you are setting a very dangerous precedent."

Even Epp's reassurances about C-484 are couched in terms of his pro-life stance. "A child is a child," says the former Canadian Alliance mem-

ber. "To the mother who is pregnant by choice and wants to have a baby, that is in fact a baby. In fact, it is a human. It's nothing else but a human, but it's not recognized in our Criminal Code as such. So, as not to upset the appellation, I haven't changed the definition of human. I haven't called it murder. I've been very careful."

Separate And Not Equal

Whatever Epp's intentions, Arthur says, the result is the same: a potential loophole for attacks on women's rights. In the United States, she argues, similar laws have been used to arrest alcoholic mothers.

"Suddenly," she says, "pregnant women become a separate class and are targeted for behaviours that are not criminalized for other people."

And if Epp and the Conservatives are so concerned about women, she asks, then why have the Conservatives pulled funding and the "equality" mandate from Status of Women Canada?

NEWS BRIEFS BY ANGELA BRUNSCHOT

EDMONTON • PROTEST TRADE DEAL GETS COLD SHOULDER

The "Three Amigos" summit in New Orleans between Stephen Harper, George Bush, and Mexican president Felipe Calderon got a cold response from a small group of Edmonton protesters this weekend, and their downright chilly attitude has nothing to do with the surprise blast of winter the city endured.

Michael Grochowalski, a member of the Council of Canadians and the organizer of the Edmonton protest against the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP), says the negotiations over food and environmental regulation put Canadian's health at risk and are blatantly undemocratic.

"Security and Prosperity Partnership—that sounds like a wonderful thing," says Grochowalski, "but then you start looking into it, there's secret meetings, and Parliament isn't talking about it."

Launched in March 2005, SPP is an expansion of NAFTA and is being developed in exclusive consultation with leading CEOs with the goal of "harmonizing" regulations between the three countries. Many calls for an open discussion of the agreement and a public debate in Parliament have gone unanswered.

At last year's summit in Montebello, Quebec, Harper characterized the meetings as negotiations over jellybean regulations, and not a threat to Canadian sovereignty.

But if that's the case, says Grochowalski, then why not have a public debate? "I think the government has realized that they can't have agreements like this talked about nationwide," he says, "because people will realize that it is a raw deal."

EDMONTON • HOUSING CITY RENTERS SURVEYED

The Edmonton Social Planning Council has launched a survey of city renters in an effort to find out whether or not the Edmonton market has loosened up in the past couple months.

The survey is a follow-up to last year's public forums on the rental market, where more than 200 Edmonton renters talked frankly (and in some cases emotionally) about their struggle to find decent, affordable accommodation in the city.

Since the summer, high rents have fallen out of media headlines. In December, the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation reported that rental vacancies had increased 0.3 per cent. The ESPC wants to find out if those vacancies are reaching a range of income levels, and is seeking suggestions on how to address the affordable housing shortage.

"It's not just us saying, 'Renters need this.' It's actual renters speaking," says ESPC spokesperson Annette Kinley.

Results will be presented to the municipal and provincial governments in June.

To fill out the survey, go to www.edmontonsocialplanning.ca.

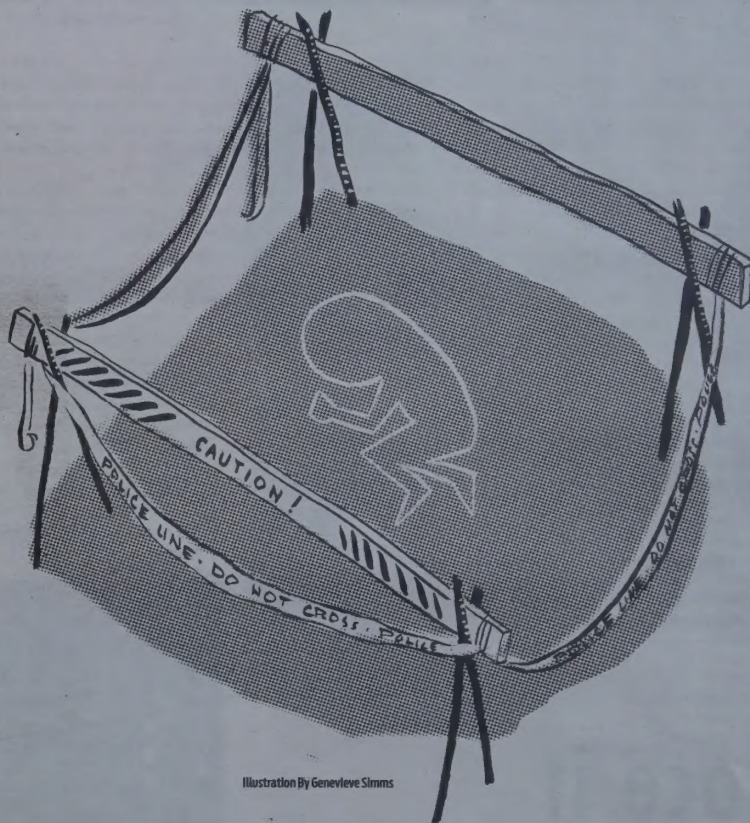


Illustration By Genevieve Simms

BILL C-484 cont'd pg. 8

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Bill C-484 is not a Conservative bill, argues Epp. The bill is his alone and is not endorsed by the party. He further argues that the Conservatives aimed to focus the funding. In the case of Status of Women Canada, funding was revoked from groups that did any kind of advocacy and research. The move ensured the money got to the shelters where it was most needed, Epp says, "rather than having women writing letters to each other and having seminars and meetings."

And if you follow Epp's interpretation of the bill, it would not help women whose children are born with birth defects as a result of drugs or other products. "There are other remedies" for those situations, says Epp. He did not consider that kind of offence when he wrote C-484.

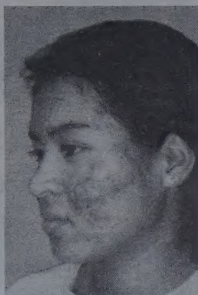
Nor was there a grassroots call for the bill from women's organizations. As Alexa McDonough, a NDP Halifax MP and former party leader, pointed out when Bill C-484 was introduced, women themselves have not identified a fetal homicide law as a priority. "In my almost 40 years in the women's movement," she said at

It's unlikely that Bill C-484 will pass. Private member's bills are rarely enacted, and the ones that are tend to be uncontroversial.

Epp's bill has passed second reading and is currently being reviewed by Parliament's justice committee, as a private member's bill, no party has an official stance on it and MPs are free to vote on it however they please. Although the Conservatives overwhelmingly voted for the bill at second reading, the Liberals are divided. Of those who did vote, 54 voted against the bill and 20 voted for it. Liberal leader Stéphane Dion did not vote on the bill when it passed second reading in March, but he will vote against the bill, if it comes back to parliament for a third reading, says national Liberal spokesperson Daniel Lauzon. That could sway the 21 Liberals who didn't vote during second reading.

The Bloc Québécois and NDP are vehemently opposed to the bill, and almost all their MPs voted against it.

Epp is not seeking re-election, and if an election is called before the fall, Bill C-484 will almost certainly leave Parliament with him.



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- a) John Ulyatt
- b) Fernando Pisani
- c) Carrie Doll
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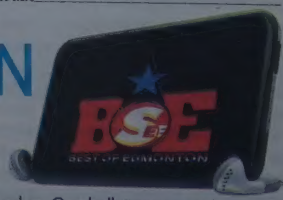
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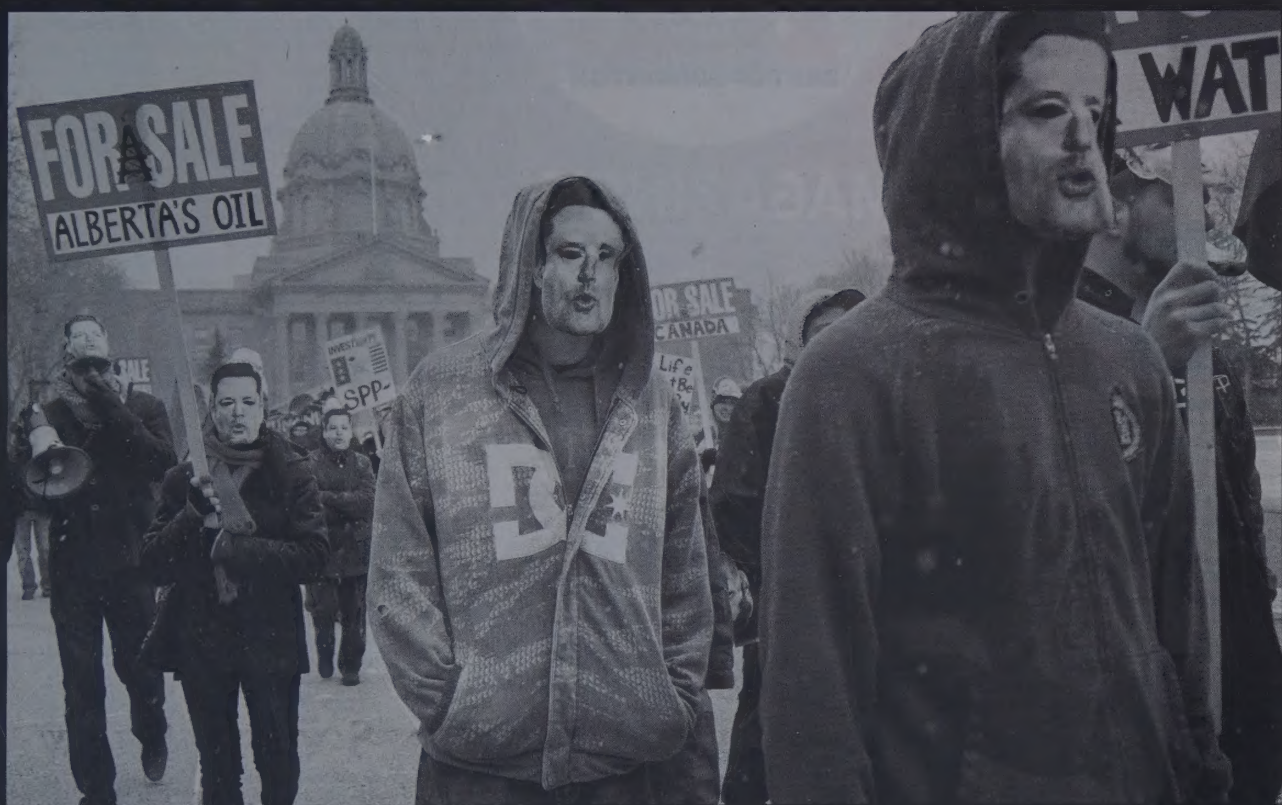
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“A LOT OF NDP PREMIERS WOULD BE JEALOUS SEEING THE AMOUNT WE SPEND HERE.”

—Scott Hennig, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation Alberta director told the *Edmonton Journal*.



WITNESS

APRIL 19, 2008 | 12:21:40 PM | ALBERTA LEGISLATURE | PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN

Activists protest the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) leader's summit held in New Orleans on April 21st and 22nd.

OUR COMMENT ON THIS WEEK'S NEWS

EDMONTON • POLICE NEW TOY IN THE SKY

Edmonton Police Service wants to buy a new helicopter, with a price tag of \$1.65 million.

It's a ridiculous expense considering the force's other needs.

The justification is that the current helicopter, now only seven years old, will need maintenance and will be out of commission for three months.

But before anyone gets too excited, it's important to remember that even though Edmonton had a police helicopter during the Whyte Avenue riots, an on-the-ground presence was still required and the police still had to ask city council for additional funding to cover the expense.

Even if EPS gets a second helicopter, when emergencies like the Whyte Ave. riots emerge, extra funding will still be needed.

And EPS has trouble hiring enough police officers: wouldn't that \$1.65 million be better spent on investments in EPS' human resources instead of its technological ones?

ALBERTA • BUDGET IRIS EVANS, MAKE UP YOUR MIND!

The phrase "flip-flop" is overused in political writing, but in the case of Iris Evans, the new provincial finance minister, the new budget shoe fits.

Her maiden budget includes an early removal of the health premiums. That's great, except that during the election the Conservatives repeatedly said such a move would be fiscally irresponsible.

Evans' other reversal was about the state of Alberta's economy in general. She's now saying that Alberta's energy economy is still the driving force in Canada and that we can weather a U.S. recession.

But that's not what she was saying in March. Only 10 days after the provincial election, Evans announced that election promises might be delayed, fearing that the U.S. sub-prime mortgage fiasco would cause a downturn.

A little over a month later, can Alberta's fortunes have changed that much?

CANADA • SCANDAL IN-AND-OUT BRIEFING NOTHING NEW

The federal "In-and-Out" election spending scandal revived the longstanding sour relationship between Stephen Harper and the national press last week.

According to CBC and CanWest reports, reporters from *Toronto Star*, *La Presse*, and CTV were given a briefing on documents supporting the RCMP raid of their headquarters before they were due to be leased.

CBC, CanWest, Canadian Press and Maclean's were excluded from the briefing. When he took office, Harper insisted that his staff chose which reporters ask questions at news conferences. When the Ottawa press gallery refused, he stopped answering questions from the national media and instead concentrated on local outlets.

While some commentators have tried to spin this latest hubbub as the convoluted antics of crybaby journalists, it's important to remember that if the Hill reporters don't get information, neither will the rest of us.

BY THE NUMBERS

FISCAL PRUDENCE SPENDING IN ALBERTA BUDGETS *SOURCE: GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA



2008
\$37 BILLION



2007
\$33 BILLION



2006
\$28.3 BILLION



2005
\$25.8 BILLION

COMMENTARY • FEDERAL POLITICS | 903 words

Forget The Scandals

OPINION EXILE

THE TORIES' ALLEGED FINANCIAL SHENANIGANS SHOULD BE THE LEAST OF VOTERS' CONCERNS

The biggest political scandal in Canada today isn't the federal Conservatives' creative election accounting, nor is it the new charges in the Liberal sponsorship affair that refuses to die. The *real* scandal is that the entire political fate of this country has been hijacked by an obsession with improprieties best left to the courts, while the current government makes major policy changes virtually unchallenged.

Last week's Elections Canada raid on Conservative headquarters in Ottawa opened up a window where more Liberal politicians than before expressed a willingness to pull the plug on Harper's minority government, which the Official Opposition has been propping up since the Bloc Québécois abandoned the job several months ago. But a new Sponsorship Scandal arrest at week's end tarnished the Liberal halo, and slammed the window shut, to mix my metaphors.

What changed, precisely, during last week which made a general

election unlikely on Monday, a decent shot by midweek, and a faded opportunity by Friday? And will this week's battle between Elections Canada and the governing party change the electoral calculus yet again?

Tory government policies have remained the same in the last couple of weeks, as far as I can tell. And I don't detect any major shifts in Liberal policy (such as it is) either. What also remained constant is that a lot of people in both parties believe strongly that the side with the least dirt on it will win the next election. What changed is, until last week, that side appeared to be the Tories by a wide margin.

This focus on scandal is not surprising, since the 2006 election campaign turned around for the Tories based on the NDP publicizing a new RCMP statement on the investigation of certain government officials. The content of the statement didn't matter: the mere mention of police involvement reinforced swing voters' perception of the Liberals as a party needing a time-out to cleanse itself of corruption.

Like generals fighting the last war, many federal strategists clearly expect sleaze perception to be a key

vote-driver in areas where the two major parties are close in popular support. That's why the Liberals had a cameraman at the Tory HQ raid last week—a belief founded on experience that a picture can be worth 1,000 votes or far more.

We voters are justifiably sensitized to allegations of financial malfeasance. We don't want to see anyone gain electoral advantage through criminal means, nor do we like to think of ourselves as dupes. But we may forget that one reason we see more stories like this now is that federal elections legislation and reporting requirements are more stringent than they used to be, on everything from nomination races to third party spending. This does not in any way excuse contravention of the law, but it does change one's perspective. We are by no stretch talking about a Watergate-level rot of the machinery of government in any of the cases pending, but you wouldn't know it from the way people talk.

It is reasonable to be angry at campaign officials who break such laws, and in many cases to be angry at the parties they represent. But I would argue that to base one's vote—one's choice among potential governments—on these overblown scandals

is not reasonable.

If Elections Canada allegations about Tory spending in the 2006 campaign are proven in court, we can expect some heads to roll, as they should. And if Liberal Benoit Corbeil is convicted of fraud, he will be fined or go to jail or both, as anyone in that position should. And voters would have the right to demand from both parties that they take steps to ensure that such actions are not repeated. (It would be in the Liberals' self-interest in particular, since Corbeil is alleged to have taken \$100,000 of his own party's money.)

But we degrade ourselves as citizens and voters if we overlook the larger issues, the ones that affect our lives every day and shape what we will be able to do as a country in the future.

The current government led by Stephen Harper has been making enormous changes, and the scandal-chastened Liberals have been letting them get away with all of it. Two GST cuts and tax breaks geared to businesses and higher-income voters have sharply constrained federal government income not just for now, but for the future. This will certainly provide the logic for spending cuts down the road. The Tories

are also bent on devolving powers to Quebec and other provinces that can never be recovered, and have made a mockery of environmental protection.

This most top-down of Canadian governments in living memory has also muzzled entire departments, like Foreign Affairs, not to mention MPs and longtime experts and professionals in the civil service. (You don't hear as much about climate change from Environment Canada these days.) The Tories are making critical changes to our security partnership with the United States and have set the stage to indefinitely extend our military involvement in Afghanistan.

These may be policies that Canadians favour, but we are not being given the opportunity to air all the issues involved, since the Liberals let everything fly through Parliament regardless.

The Liberals deserve a lot of criticism for their weakness, their failure to develop coherent policy alternatives, and their crude political calculations. But we as voters are the ones who make those calculations necessary. People get the politicians they deserve.

inexileeverywhere@gmail.com

THE EDMONTON ARTS COUNCIL

EDMONTON PUBLICART



CALL TO COMMUNITY GROUPS – COMMUNITY PUBLIC ART GRANTS 2008

The Edmonton Arts Council, on behalf of the City of Edmonton, is seeking applications from Edmonton community groups interested in participating in the Community Public Art Program 2008. Grants are available for Community Groups to partner with an artist to create a permanent public artwork.

Deadline for Submissions: 4:30 PM Friday, June 20th, 2008
Installation: November, 2009

An information package, including an entry form and terms of the competition, can be downloaded from our website at: www.edmontonarts.ab.ca/publicart.

For more information, contact the Edmonton Arts Council.



EDMONTON ARTS COUNCIL
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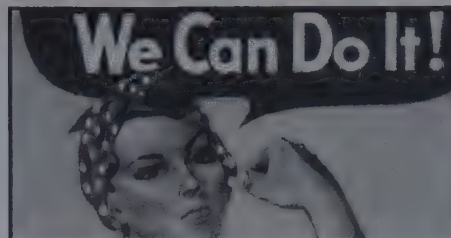
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HIGHLIGHT • FESTIVAL



In Solidarity | May Day celebrates labour pacts such as the eight hour work week and child labour laws with plays, art, spoken word and as marches and speeches.

May Week • April 26 to May 3 • Various

The May Week Labour Arts Festival celebrates May Day (May 1), which was the original Labour Day. The day commemorates the men who were executed following the Haymarket riot in Chicago in 1886, and has since evolved into a celebration of the achievements of the labour movement. Events include a Day of Mourning for fallen workers at City Hall on April 28 and a march down Whyte Ave. on May 1. For a full list, go to www.mayweek.ab.ca.

ACTIVISM

ACTIVIST AGENDA An online newsletter resource for activism related events in Edmonton, with up-to-date information on sustainable practices, networking, and active organizations in the city. Upstairs, 439-8725. Go to www.egs.ca. Info also available in-store.

BIKE WORKS Fix your own bike. Edmonton Bicycle Commuters' BikeWorks is entirely run by volunteers. Hours vary by season, call ahead: 633-7453. Info: www.edmontonbikes.ca.

CJSR NEWS VOLUNTEERING Gain experience in radio, contribute to a diverse community, and learn new skills, while sharing your community stories. Info: news@cjsr.com.

COUNCIL OF CANADIANS 3RD WED EVERY MONTH Independent public interest organization promoting economic justice, democracy, and asserting Canadian sovereignty. Info: 429-4500.

EDMONTON 9/11 TRUTH An organization for Canadian citizens questioning the events of 9/11. For news, links, and local events go to www.edmonton911truth.com.

EDMONTON SMALL PRESS ASSOCIATION 3RD WED EVERY MONTH, 7 PM. An activist-arts and indymedia collective, seeking socially-conscious artists, coordinators and production volunteers on an on-going basis. For info about upcoming events, edmontonsmallpress.org.

FRIENDS OF LUBICON ALBERTA TUES, 2 PM. APIRG OFFICE, HUB MALL, U OF A CAMPUS Grassroots solidarity organization demanding fair and just settlement for the Lubicon Cree of Northern Alberta. Info: www.lubicon.org.

GREENPEACE ALBERTA Working and recruiting active people to help put an end to one of the world's most destructive projects: the Alberta Tar Sands. Info: mhudson@greenpeace.org.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD 2ND THU EVERY

MONTH, 7 PM. RM 2-42, HUMANITIES BUILDING, U OF A CAMPUS. Meetings open to the public. Info: edmonton.iww.ca.

MADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION 3RD & 4TH SAT EVERY MONTH, 9 AM-5 PM. FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN, 8405-91 ST. RM 3-18 Organization for the emancipation and autonomy of African women, providing programs on economy, community health, training in HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment, and harm reduction. Instruction in French, English, and African languages. Admission free for members, membership \$10. Info: 490-7332.

PEACE AMBASSADORS INITIATIVE MON, 5-7 PM. EDUCATION NORTH 4-104, U OF A CAMPUS A youth group promoting anti-racist and diversity workshops. Info: 425-4644 or www.noair.org.

SIERRA CLUB OF CANADA Prairie Chapter works with ecologically and socially conscious individuals to build strong grassroots movement in the Prairies. Info: www.sierraclub.ca/prairie.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVIE NIGHT 4TH FRI EVERY MONTH, 7 PM. UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON, MAIN HALL, 10804-119 ST. \$5 donation or PWYC at the door. Screenings followed by group discussion. Info: nj.edmonton@gmail.com.

THOUGHTFUL TUESDAY DOCUMENTARY SERIES TUE, 7 PM. STEEPS TEA LOUNGE, 11116-82 AVE. APR 29 "The Global Banquet" Examines how corporate globalization of food threatens the livelihoods of farmers. Screenings free. Info: 988-8105 or kalmann@interbaun.com.

UNESCO COALITION FOR PEACE LAST FRI EVERY MONTH, 3 PM. BOYLE McCAULEY HEALTH CENTRE, 2ND FL. BOARD ROOM, 10628-96 ST. Info: GreenpeaceCanada.org 922-5566.

VIGIL TO STOP PRIVATIZATION OF MEDICARE APR 23, 12 PM. ALBERTA LEGISLATURE STEPS Diana Gibson, Research Director of Parkland Institute, will give an address analyzing the throne and budget speeches from a health perspective.

WALK FOR DARFUR MAY 4, 1 PM. IKEA, SOUTH EDMONTON COMMON Walk the last 15 km of a 300 km trek to a rally at

Grant MacEwan College. Info: Ravi, 497-5648.

WOMEN IN BLACK 1ST & 3RD SAT EVERY MONTH, 10-11 AM. STRATHKONA FARMERS' MARKET, 83 AVE. & 103 ST. International women's peace and anti-racism group formed by Jewish and Arab women, opposing violence in all forms. All women, men, and children invited to attend the bi-weekly silent vigil. Info: 435-7051.

YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE 2ND FRI EVERY MONTH, 5 PM. REMEDY CAFE, 8631-109 ST. For discussion topics and suggested readings go to www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=3559215104.

READINGS & LECTURES

FACTORY WEST READING SERIES 3RD TUE EVERY MONTH, UNTIL MAY 7 PM. CAFE SELECT (UPSTAIRS), 8404-109 ST. A variety of poetry, fiction and creative non-fiction, hosted by Rob McManian.

GIL ADAMSON APR 26, 2:30 PM. WHITEHUT CROSSING LIBRARY BRANCH, APR 27, 1:30 PM. STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY GIL reads from her novel "The Outlander". Info: 496-1822.

HEART BEAT WED, 8 PM (UNTIL MAY 28). SIGN-UP 7:30 PM. THE KASBAR LOUNGE, YANNI'S TAVERNA, 10444 WHYTE AVE. A new series of open-stage poetry and improv music w/ The Raving Poets band. Info: www.ravingpoets.com.

JORDAN SCOTT APR 27, 7 PM. AUDREYS, 10702 JASPER AVE. Reading from his book "Bert". Free admission.

LISA MARTIN-DEMOR APR 22, 7:30 PM. AUDREYS, 10702 JASPER AVE. Reading from her collection "One Crow Sorrow". Free admission.

LUNCH BY THE BOOKS STANLEY A MILNER LIBRARY, 87

CHURCHILL SQUARE Noon-hour discussions offered by the U of A's Faculty of Arts and the Edmonton Public Library. Free, everyone welcome. Info: www.utsweb.ualberta.ca/arts/lunchbythebooks.cfm.

NAKED AMBITION: AN R-RATED LOOK AT AN X-RATED INDUSTRY MAY 8, 7 PM. ROBBINS THEATRE, GRANT

MACLEAN COLLEGE, 10910-104 AVE. Photographer Michael Grecco discusses and presents portraits of some of the industry's most legendary adult entertainers. Tickets: \$40, \$25 students at TIX.

NOT ALL TALK... AN EVENING WITH STEPHEN LEWIS APR 30, WINSPEAR CENTRE Stephen Lewis shares his perspective on current issues, from human rights and gender equality to global responsibility. Tickets: \$50-\$65, limited VIP and students tickets available at Winspear Box Office.

POETRY OPEN STAGE THU, 8 PM. NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR, 10354 JASPER AVE, 425-9730. Weekly open stage poetry readings and performances. All welcome.

POETS' HAVEN READING SERIES MON, 7 PM. UPPER CRUST CAFE, 10309-86 AVE. Weekly readings, presented by the Stroll of Poets Society. Info: Nic, 422-8174 or www.strollofpoets.com.

POETS INK THU, 7-9 PM. ST. THOMAS CAFE, ST. ALBERT. Weekly writing evenings. Info: www.poetsink.org.

STORY SLAM 3RD WED EVERY MONTH, 8 PM. BLUE CHAIR CAFE, 9624-76 AVE. Sign-up 7 pm. First ten writers only, allotted five minutes each. Info: thebunkerprojects@hotmail.com.

WELCOME TO THE REEL WORLD SERIES WED, 5 PM. RM 325, CIVIL ENGINEERING BUILDING, U OF A CAMPUS Global issues film and speaker series. Info: www.week.ualberta.ca.

WILD WOMEN MAY 1, 7 PM. ROSIE'S BAR AND GRILL, 10475-80 AVE. T.A.L.E.S. cafe featuring Dawn Blue, Enaid and Stephanie Bengier. Tickets: \$5 in the door.

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“IN MY MIND, AT LEAST, THE JOKE ILLUSTRATES AN **ABSURDITY** THAT SIMULTANEOUSLY DEFLATES AN OVERLY SERIOUS ARTIST AND AN OVERLY SERIOUS CITY.
—SKYSCAPE CRITIC DAVID GRAHAM

CITY SIGHTS • ART-CHITECTURE? • BY DAVID GRAHAM | 704 words

Christo Almighty

WOULD THE CONCEPTUAL ARTIST SPOT HIS INFLUENCE ON OUR CONSTANTLY UNDER-CONSTRUCTION BOOMTOWN?

When friends from out of town visit me, I always endeavour to show them Edmonton in its best possible light.

Like a good tour guide, I focus on the high points: the Legislature, the University, Whyte Avenue, the Muttart Conservatory, and, in season, our city-wide tribute to famed Bulgarian conceptual artist Christo, known for his particular brand of environmental installation art—usually in mammoth forms of wrapped architecture or landmarks.

Just this month, as I walked along Saskatchewan Drive with a friend who was touring through, I was able to point out a 14-storey apartment building carefully swaddled in orange fabric. I gestured to it proudly, and merely said “Christo.” (I had a backstory prepared, about how the Stelmach government had organized the wrapping to commemorate their landslide victory in the 2008 provincial election. I was disappointed when no one asked for clarification.)

Of course, Christo had nothing to do with the orange tarpaulins wrapped around this particular apartment building, nor was this the first time I had seen construction projects elaborately draped in this fashion, presumably to protect them from the elements of our fair city.

This wasn't even the first time I had made the joke—I like to comment on this Edmontonian phenomenon as often as I can. In my mind, at least, the joke illustrates an absurdity that simultaneously deflates an overly serious artist and an overly serious city. Christo... and Edmonton! Bryan Adams and Edmonton, perhaps. Christo and Paris, certainly. But the combination of Edmonton and Christo is so unlikely that it makes me smile.

If Christo were reading this article, he would be annoyed with me already. I know this because Christo has outlined very specific desires concerning how his art should be described, and I have not conformed.

For instance, Christo consistently insists that projects associated with his name be attributed equally to his partner (in life as in art), Jeanne-Claude. Further, Christo would cringe at being confined to one (admittedly famous) installation, as if the artistic accomplishments of Christo and Jeanne-Claude begin and end with



Something's Happening Here | But is it art? Should we try to see it that way? Or would Christo want to slap us? PHOTO BY DAVID GRAHAM

the 1995 wrapping of the Reichstag—which the swathed apartment complex reminded me of most.

Those who want to avoid irritating Christo are advised to consult the listing of commonly noted errors compiled on his website, www.christojeanneclaude.net. Here one will find a litany of complaints ranging from the minute (the artist is to be referred to as Christo, not Mr. Christo) to the mundane (Christo insists that he is not a mere “conceptual” artist, because the concepts are carried out).

The errors listed are largely semantic, predominantly concerned with pointing out the difference between “wrapping” and “surrounding” and such things, his tone reminiscent of a long-suffering substitute art teacher. It makes you want to remind poor Mr. Christo that if he didn't react, maybe the kids wouldn't tease him so much.

However, it should not be overlooked that Christo and Jeanne-Claude have accumulated a sincere following in the fine art community. Arguably, their work is entirely unconcerned with utility, but is about the creation of beauty for its own sake.

There is no fixed or certain meaning to the works of Christo and Jeanne-Claude, and perhaps this explains their insistence on semantic details. If I were forced to offer an interpretation of the works of Christo and Jeanne-Claude, I would admit that I don't think they mean much of anything. But they are amazing, and they are beautiful.

The wrapped apartment building on 104th is pretty neat too. It is 14 stories tall, and it is impressive. I would not say that it is pretty, but it is attractive. But it is not art; the wrapping is only there to keep the building warm. It is only a coincidence that our construction sites share a resemblance with the oeuvre of Christo and Jeanne-Claude.

I do respect the city of Edmonton. I admire our work ethic, and our ability to persist in the face of seemingly endless winters. I am pleased to live in a city that honours and supports the arts, or at least claims to. In spite of all of this, though, it seems that Edmonton's first priority is utility, and pragmatism of this kind seems to result in as many catastrophically ugly consequences as strangely attractive and compelling ones.

Sometimes, an oil slick on a puddle

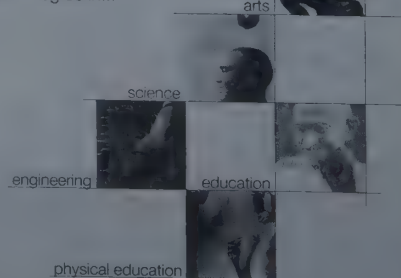
makes a pretty pattern; more often, it leaves an ugly stain. The grand projects of Christo and Jeanne-Claude remind me that we need to be

deliberate if we want to live in a place of beauty. They remind me that art for art's sake is costly, but so too is artlessness.

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50 BUCK • BY TRAVIS SARGENT / 509 WORDS

Inner City Romance

THIS WEEK'S SOBUCKER PLANS A DOWNTOWN DATE NIGHT, HEAVY ON SENTIMENT, SPORT, AND THRIFT

Dating in Edmonton can be a tricky thing. Whyte Avenue is a fine place for romance if you run with the house music and hair gel crowd, but those of us with more discerning tastes are often hard-pressed for new and exciting places to pitch woo.

Enter seedy downtown Edmonton. Long-forgotten Jasper Avenue is the perfect spot for a romantic summer walk, and there are plenty of crumbling parkades nearby should you need a secluded spot for neckin'. If your idea of a fun date extends beyond nachos and the newest Vin Diesel flick, here are a few suggestions for an exciting night on the town.

\$16: Cracker Cats Tickets

Say what you will about my beloved Cracker Cats, these guys are legit. Grown-ass men, old enough to be your father and twice as tough, playing baseball in a hockey town where it snows nine months out of the year. The games are criminally

underattended so you can usually get a seat right behind home plate, the perfect spot to impress a date with your lexicon of bad baseball jokes. "I've seen better curves on a square!"

Skip the soggy hot dogs and warm draught, sneak in a flask of something strong and warm, and you'll both be shouting clever quips at the Kansas City T-Bones in no time.

\$9: Red Wine. \$4: Homemade Sushi. \$1: Kite

When the game lets out (or when you're ejected due to your drunken conduct), head across the street to River Valley Park for a picnic. Everyone loves sushi, and it's easy to make, so whip some up the morning of your big date.

Bring along a bottle of cheap wine—I like Royal Red because it comes in a 1.14L jug, and tastes sweet like Manischewitz. Plus, it's got a screwtop so you won't need to do that thing where you jam the cork in with your keys and spill wine all over yourself.

If luck is on your side, there'll be

enough wind to get your Dollarama Batman kite up in the air—but even if you fail, your companion will surely be charmed by your efforts.

\$20: Cocktails

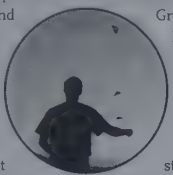
The Grand Hotel is an Edmonton institution. It's right next to the Greyhound bus station (the preferred mode of transportation for teen run-aways and violent criminals), so you know the bar will always be full of friendly faces.

Aside from cheap drinks and tri-weekly karaoke, the lounge features a jukebox, pinball, tabletop Ms. Pac Man, VLTs, and two claw prize machines, so don't forget to bring a roll of quarters, slick. I once found \$200 strewn about the sidewalk out front and drunkenly boarded a

Greyhound headed to Red Deer, but unless you want your date to end in a Central Alberta hospital room, I'd advise against it.

If things get a little too stabby for your tastes, you can retreat up the stairs to one of the Grand's many romantic suites... but that's another 50 bucks and another story altogether.

Wanna try it? Send your idea for 50Buck to stories@see.greatwest.ca.



CITY LIVIN' • THE 9TH CIRCLE / 620 WORDS

Wake Up—We're In Hell



**MY TOWN SCOTT LINGLEY
ARE THE FORCES OF NATURE
TRYING TO TEACH US
SOMETHING? DO WE DESERVE
THIS SHITSTORM AFTER ALL?**

Many people don't know that in the *Inferno*, Dante's epic vision of Satan's kingdom, the Italian poet depicted the ninth and innermost circle of

ing on its front page the Facebook updates of the man accused of stabbing an elderly gentleman to death outside the Royal Fork Buffet on Stony Plain Road one afternoon early last week. I'm sure this valuable information has helped shape the discourse that will lead to a deeper understanding of such unaccountable evil.

Glimmers of insight are already cropping up on the *Journal's* letters page, where readers have taken the occasion of this tragedy to note that Jasper Place has really gone downhill, all because there aren't enough cops hanging around scaring everyone into behaving themselves; one would-be editorialist went so far as to blame the presence of ■ not.

MAYBE THE FORCES OF NATURE WERE JUST SICK OF EDMONTON'S SHIT LAST WEEK AND DECIDED IT WAS TIME FOR EVERYONE TO GO TO THEIR ROOMS AND THINK ABOUT THINGS.

Hell not as a pit of fire, but as ■ vast frozen lake called Cocytus. Here the worst sinners—those who were treacherous against their kin—found themselves farthest from the warmth of God's love, confined within ice, their eyes frozen shut with tears. The most fiendish were immured in the ice in tortured pairs, gnawing on each other's heads for eternity.

I merely mention this as a point of interest, and not in attempt to make sense of the apocalyptic April unfolding outside our windows (though I have heard it suggested that all this snow and no playoff hockey is symptomatic of a universe seriously out of whack).

As for causes of the relentless dousing of cold that has obliterated our vernal progress, it could very well be that I'm to blame for finally replacing the bald back tire on my mountain bike after three riding seasons and one concussion. If the Forces Of Nature hadn't spotted me cavorting on my Rocky Mountain Cardiac when I should have been contributing to the tax base or raising some children, maybe this would never have happened.

Or maybe the Forces Of Nature were just sick of Edmonton's shit last week. With human remains turning up in wooded areas and hapless seniors randomly laid low in broad daylight by deranged jackasses, the FON might have decided it was time for everybody to go to their rooms and think about things for a while.

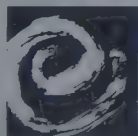
Kudos to the *Journal* for reproduc-

for-profit health and wellness centre for the preponderance of scumbags in the neighbourhood. Apparently these people haven't been cheered by the news that the EPS will be cracking down on jaywalkers and backyard fire pits this spring.

Nor will their concerns be assuaged by enhanced airborne surveillance. Seems the citizens of our fair city aren't convinced of the efficacy of one police helicopter enough to rally behind the Edmonton Police Commission's dream of having two copper choppers patrolling the skies over the City of Champs.

The matter of kicking loose some \$2 million to fund and maintain a second copter that would enable 24-hour air surveillance has yet to go before City Council. We'll see how impressed they are by the fact that EPS Air-1 logged 1,150 hours in the sky last year and contributed directly to 347 arrests, and whether anyone can put forth a compelling argument for the cost-effectiveness of pre-emptive taser.

In the meantime, we've all been sent indoors to gaze on the stranger our city has become, a white wasteland where our best efforts sometimes fail to protect the most vulnerable of our fellow citizens. With so many grave, disorienting tragedies unfolding before our eyes, I think it's quite reasonable if, in the blank, heatless light of morning we aren't momentarily convinced we've woken up in Hell.



edmonton
arts
council

LEE FUND FOR THE ARTS 2008 GRANT INFORMATION

In 2008, the Lee Fund will invest in Edmonton's creative community by providing funding for community arts projects which are described as collaborations between professional artists and a distinct community.

Previously, the Lee Fund provided grants for the creation and/or development of new works in any artistic discipline and/or engaging children and youth in the arts. Applications for projects in these areas will be accepted in 2008. Starting 2009, the Lee Fund will be exclusively for community arts projects.

DEADLINE MAY 1st, 2008

Visit the grants section of the Edmonton Arts Council website for your application form at www.edmontonarts.ab.ca.

Contact the Edmonton Arts Council for more information.
PH: (780) 424-2787 or EM: lstalker@edmontonarts.ab.ca



TOP 10 MOBILE DOWNLOADS

- 1 Lollipop
U! Wayne
- 2 Love In This Club
Usher
- 3 4 Minutes
Madonna
- 4 Low
Flo Rida
- 5 Bleeding Love
Leona Lewis
- 6 No Air
Jordin Sparks
- 7 Touch My Body
Mariah Carey
- 8 With You
Chris Brown
- 9 Elevator
Flo Rida
- 10 Apologize
Timbaland

ROGERS.COMMUNISTORE



(used under license. © 2007)

**BANG ON?
OR
BOLLOCKS?**

Send your opinion to
letters@see.greatwest.ca



you're looking at the lights or the set, you're not looking at the actors. You can find ways of adding little touches to the show without "waving your arms in the air."

Since you've been doing this for such a long time in Alberta, I have to ask, have you noticed a difference with the province's newfound affluence? Do more people come out? Is more money making its way to theatre?

Honestly, I don't think there is any more money being put into independent, grassroots theatre than there was 20 years ago. Since I've gotten involved in theatre, from what I understand, funding for the arts has stayed the same while the funding for horseracing has jumped tenfold, because Ralph Klein is a horseracing fan. So I guess we just need a premier who's really big into the arts.

Would more money mean better productions? Or is some creativity lost with the need to be resourceful?

That's a double-edged sword, isn't it? With more money, I'd be able to hire someone to help me. I mean, when I'm designing a show, I design the show, I build the show, I paint the show, I run the show, I hang the lights—I do just about everything, because they don't have the money for extra labour. It would just be the difference between having to borrow things from people, having to scrounge for things, and being able to buy or rent something. The last set I designed, I borrowed a lot of furniture from my aunt and cousins, because it was free and they were willing to lend it to me.

Do you have a favourite light?

I'll say a Mac 500.

Mike Takats | Technical Director/Lighting Designer, Varscona Theatre
PHOTO BY CHRIS LEWIS

Q&As WITH EDMONTONIANS BY CHRIS LEWIS

15 minutes

How many shows have you designed?

I don't even know the number. I was actually thinking about that last night. I know I've been designing the lights for one of the local companies since I started working here basically, and so this next show is about the 20th lighting design I'll be doing for them.

So it's full-time?

Yeah, I'm the technical director, which means I hang all the lights, focus all the lights, run the shows. And then because there's two main companies, Shadow Theatre and Teatro La Quindicina, both hire me as the lighting designer and also set designer. So

it's kind of an interesting place to be in, the technical part of it and the designing part of it. There's not too many people who split that. Usually you pick one or the other, but I couldn't feed my family if I did that.

Do you ever find yourself doing the same things?

[Sighs.] You know, it's funny—not really. I mean, with lighting design there's only so many ways you can do it, but even now I'm finding completely different ways to do it and completely different needs based on the script. I don't like designs that stand out for the sake of attention, because when

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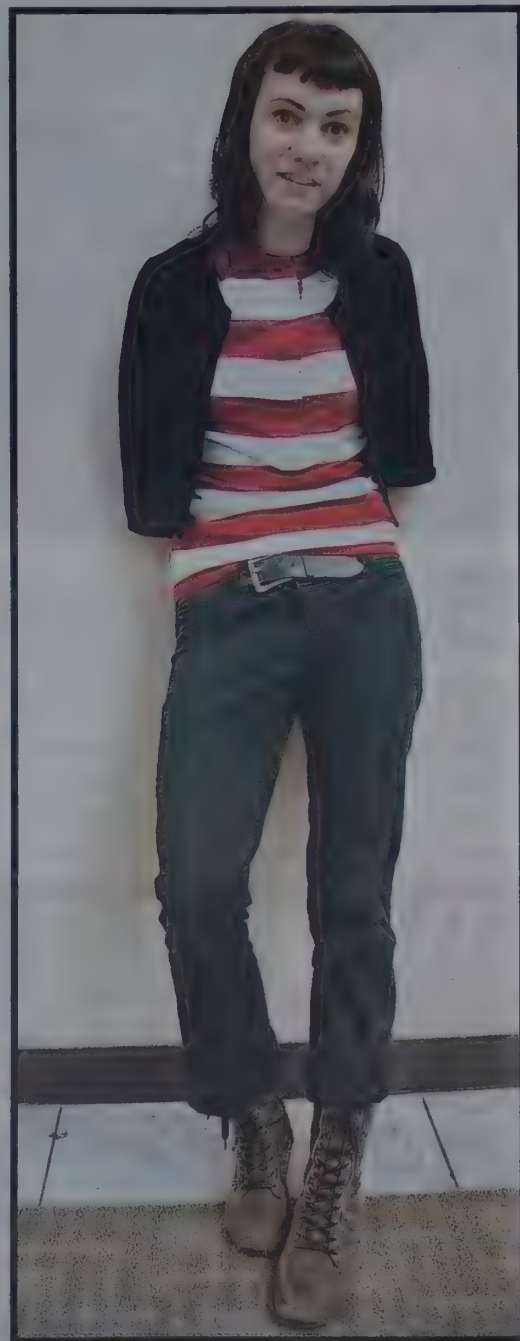
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myLook

Rachelle Rimmer | Environmental Technician
 BY CHRIS LEWIS

My Look: Country punkin'?

Hair: I do it myself; just impulse cutting.

Wearing: I stole everything off my sister. The cardigan is Tristan & Iseult. She's had the pants since junior high. The shirt is from Banana Republic. And I got the Mags at Gravity Pope. I stole the belt from my Grade 11 boyfriend.

Into: I really like my job. I produce environmental assessments for windfarms. The best part is riding my bike around looking at birds. Aside from that I've been reading Wade Davis' *One River*. He's an ethnobotanist, and the book is a collection of stories about the discovery and use of rare plants in South America. And I just finished reading *The World Without Us*, which is pretty self-explanatory.

IMBIBING • MARTINIS • BY MELISSA PRIESTLEY | 785 words

Two At The Very Most

OUR SEASONED WINE WRITER TAKES A SPIN WITH THE GREAT MARTINI DEBATE—GIN OR VODKA?

As an unrepentant wine lover who will never tire of the countless permutations offered by fermented grape juice, I will admit that martinis are my kryptonite. After a long winter of heavy red wines, something ice cold and distilled is perfect for spring—whenever it decides to arrive.

Though I prefer the classic gin martini, the popular habit of substituting vodka also makes a delicious drink. Here's a quick rundown of both martini bases.

Born in the Low Countries during the 17th century, gin prompted the English drinking craze that continued well into the 1800s, and was followed by the establishment of big distillers like Tanqueray, Gordon, Beefeater, and Bols. Though gin's reputation plummeted during the Prohibition era (when undrinkable "bathtub" gin was the bootleg liquor of choice), recent years have seen a revival of interest in this tasty grain spirit.

Usually flavoured with juniper berries and various other botanicals and spices, gin can also contain notes of cardamom, angelica root, coriander, lemon, and ginger. The most common style of gin is London Dry; that said, Plymouth gin is sweeter and more aromatic, while Genever gin (mostly from Holland) ranges from dry to sweet. Great brands to try are Hendrick's, South, and Citadelle, although Bombay Sapphire and Tanqueray are good standbys for value.

Though vodka (Russian for "little water") was relatively unknown outside of Eastern Europe prior to the mid-20th century, it has since become the world's most popular spirit. Its international popularity skyrocketed after the 1960s, due in large part to savvy ad campaigns (a prime example being Absolut's lifestyle marketing).

While "neutral" vodka is certainly the dominant North American style, Eastern European vodka comes in a wide range of aromas, including aniseed, nuts, vanilla, citrus, toffee, and tobacco. The flavours usually mirror the base ingredient—most of the cheap, mass-produced vodkas are made from molasses, while Russian vodka is often made from wheat, and Polish vodka from rye. Other bases include potatoes, barley, beets, and even onions. I recommend Chopin, Wyborowa, Belvedere, and Stolichnaya for the Eastern European style; try Ketel One, Skyy, and 42 Below for the Western style.

Shaken Or Stirred?

We have James Bond to thank for



Bruised Booze? | Some say overshaking a martini is bad, but it sure makes a nice icy cocktail. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

of cheap bar tools at the dollar store, though my \$1 mini plastic shaker cracked on its second use.

Perhaps you've heard the rumour that overzealous shaking and stirring can "bruise" the alcohol, making the drink taste bitter. I think this is a load of crap, and I challenge anyone to provide scientific evidence to support such a claim. I brutalize my martinis during the shaking process. All I end up with is ice cold deliciousness.

The Classic Dry Martini

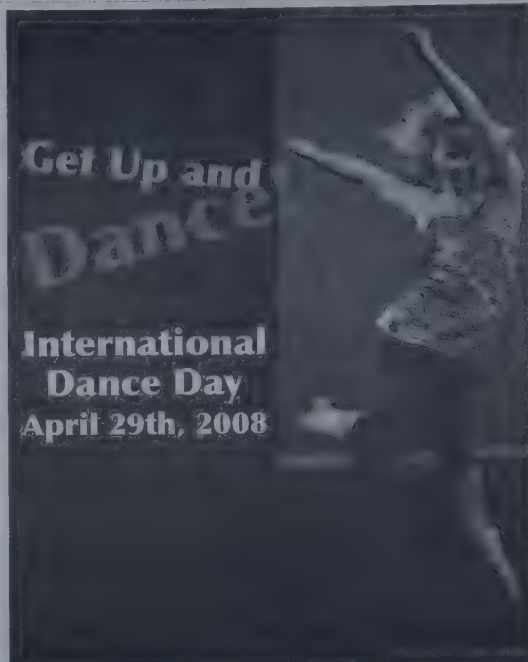
The recipe for the classic Dry Martini is as follows:

1 1/2 oz. gin (though you can substitute vodka)

1/2 oz. dry vermouth

Fill a mixing glass or shaker with ice. Next, measure the vermouth into the glass or shaker. Use a spoon to stir or fit the shaker together and shake. Strain away the vermouth, leaving only the flavoured ice. Then measure the gin/vodka into the glass/shaker and stir or shake until the liquid is ice cold, or when condensation forms on the glass (approximately 30 to 60 seconds). Strain the liquid into a chilled glass, drop in a green olive, and serve.

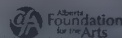
London Dry gin is best for this martini, unless you have a sweet tooth. The best martini vodka is one that is fairly neutral, the complex, full-flavoured vodkas are best served straight, on ice. Finally, the quantity of vermouth affects the martini's overall dryness: those who prefer a very dry martini should minimize the vermouth—instead of shaking it with ice, a few drops should be used to coat the inside of the serving glass.



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The Son Of Sam Wok

YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE FOR POST-WHYTE PARTYING HAS BEEN RESURRECTED, JUST DOWN THE ROAD

SAM WOK

10417-67 Ave., 433-6077

After writing about Thai and Vietnamese food the last couple of columns, I was determined (or so I thought) to seek out a non-Asian restaurant for this week's review. But when I had to go to Home Depot to get some bolts, what should I spy across ugly old Calgary Trail South but the crimson beacon of the new Sam Wok—part of the Roadrunner Motel complex which, through the horizontal sweep of snowflakes, looked like the ideal location for a shower curtain rod farewell to this cruel world.

Sam Wok, however, was a sight for sore eyes. After losing my dear North China Restaurant a few years back, Sam Wok became my go-to place for slightly grubby, almost hilariously cheap Chinese delicacies. Situated in the former Strathcona Chinatown Mall for many a year, it pumped out a consistently shiny stream of Szechuan cuisine from its lengthy menu to an endless procession of loyal customers—right until

4 a.m. on the weekends. I invite you to picture the anarchy of Sam Wok, a few staggering blocks from Whyte, after last call. On one of my final visits to their old location, a member of my party had to be rescued from the men's room, where he had found the seating so cozy he fell asleep.

Then one day I was driving by and the sign, the crappy office-grade vertical blinds, the elements of its—let's face it—not particularly charming décor were all gone. Worse yet, my local font of hot and sour soup, ginger beef, lo mein with greens, vegetable hot pot, and rice roll with long donut—vanished. No valediction, no forwarding address.

So finding them reincarnated farther down the street filled me with a gluttonous elation that would not be deferred, at least not any later than supertime.

The new home of Sam Wok has a lovely atrium-style window (the kind you might see on a McDonald's) arching over its frontmost tables, so it doesn't seem quite as dingy as the previous location. That said, it ain't much prettier. The room is smaller—and gets pretty crowded over the dinner rush—the koi tank replaced by a soda fridge with a TV set on top, the walls painted a shade of mint that called to mind a candy I wished

I hadn't eaten.

The same old menu, boasting a ridiculously broad range of Chinese staples, was placed before us by one of the brigade of incredibly industrious women that make Sam Wok run like a top. I can't think of a single instance in my numerous visits to Sam Wok where the food took more than 10 minutes to hit the table, no matter how many people were in there. Their new setting made them seem a little friendlier than I remember—perhaps no longer dealing with a restaurant full of 3 a.m. drunks had improved their overall view of humanity.

Flipping to the last page of the menu, I was shaken from my usual torpor by a jarring sight—the entire Rice Roll section of the menu had been redacted. White stickers blotted out the list of items you could have rolled up in a rice wrapper. My personal favourite had been the rice roll with long donut—a spongy pipe of deep-fried dough sleeved in a pallid, glistening tube, doused with soya and served with a dish of crushed chilis and spices in oil. With a side of lo mein, green onions, and ginger, this was a hangover's best friend.

It turns out that just like the dining room, Sam Wok's new kitchen is small—too small to hold the steamer for the rice wrappers. Sigh.



Yum Yum Yum | It may be small, and not too snazzy, but we still love Sam Wok. PHOTO BY MARC BENCE

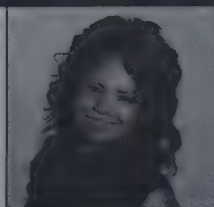
We went ahead with the rest of our usual order—assorted vegetables (\$7.95) and ginger beef (\$9.95) with steamed rice, tagging on an order of pan-fried dumplings (10 for \$6.95) to make up for our sidelined starchy, salty gutfill. The dumplings didn't look like the accustomed translucent, miniature clutch-purses beside their dip of red wine vinegar—instead they resembled puffy perogies that had been well-seared on both sides. Inside, the freight of ground pork and seasonings confirmed their dumplingness. We managed to stuff back a couple before the ginger beef, veggies, and rice arrived simultaneously, balanced (along with a big plate of someone else's food), across the arms of one diminutive server. Every bite of food had that just-barely-opaque glaze concarnstarch instills. My tastebuds were swimming.

I have to admit, the results were mixed. The vegetables were, as usual, cooked to a perfect, vibrant firmness, the bok choy and celery practically aglow with tender-crispness. But it seemed to be mostly those vegetables plus some carrots. Where, I ask you, were the mushrooms, the bamboo shoots, the water chestnuts? (Actually, it's pretty easy to imagine them running out of such things during the course of a hectic day.)

The ginger beef, always reliably sweet and gingery (with a hint of heat), seemed beefier than usual, the sticky-crisp coating annealed to a more-generous-than-usual rind of meat. We could have chewed all night if we hadn't gotten full and asked for the rest to be boxed up—even our scant order would provide generous Sunday leftovers for two at the low, low price of \$27 with tax.

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Prize: A double-guest pass to see *The Visitor* at the Princess Theatre.
Skill-testing Question: In *The Visitor* what are the names of the two people who take up residence in Walter's apartment?

Prize: A double-guest pass to see *The Counterfeiters* at the Garneau Theatre.

Skill-testing Question: What is the German title of *The Counterfeiters*?

PRINCESS

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BURGERS

MOTORHAUNT (12406-66 ST) Although the food is relatively good, the real reason to visit Motorhaunt is to see the physical structure of the place. To say it's unique hardly does it justice. Unless you've been before, you've likely never had an experience like Motorhaunt.

★★★★☆

CAFÉ

MILL CREEK CAFÉ (9562-82 AVE) If you're visiting Edmonton and staying downtown, walk south down the stairs at the MacDonald, cross the bridge, and head into Mill Creek ravine. Follow the path, go up the hill at the Mill Creek Pool parking lot and wander right to the Mill Creek Café for a light bite to eat. That way, you'll experience both the great geography and the small-town hospitality we're so proud of.

★★★★☆

CASUAL ELEGANT

BACON (6509-112 AVE) This great little bohemian-chic restaurant offers a limited choice of familiar (ish) items with some innovative twists. By pairing locally produced items with some deft hands in the kitchen, they manage to pull off simple organic dishes that are worth remembering.

★★★★☆

CHINESE

NEW TAN TAN (10133-97 ST) If you're a dim sum veteran, you'll probably be happy enough with the New Tan Tan and its somewhat "rugged" style. But if you're new to this type of service and are looking for dim sum for dum-dums, you

might want to try someplace a little less...haggard?

★★★★☆

EUROPEAN

CONTINENTAL TREAT (10560-82 AVE) Definitely not the type of place that hopes to dazzle you with its creativity—the menu consists mostly of standard (somewhat plain) preparations of Eastern European favourites. It's the type of restaurant that used to set the standard for high-class dining, and it can still be a nice treat.

★★★★☆

FINE DINING

HARDWARE GRILL (3690 JASPER AVE) Arguably one of the best restaurants in Edmonton. Well warned, however: If you go, it's an undertaking. Definitely not the type of place you just pop into with friends on a whim. Well prepared for at least a week before going, and hibernate afterwards: the portions are way too big (and are priced accordingly).

★★★★☆

MADISON'S GRILL (10053 JASPER AVE) Without a doubt, one of the top restaurants in Edmonton. The warm and comfortable surroundings make this a perfect place for a romantic getaway, or for that special occasion.

★★★★☆

FRENCH

LA TABLE DE RENOIR (10046-101A AVE) I can't think of a better way to spend your lunch hour or a warm summer evening than sitting on La Table de Renoir's patio enjoying one of their traditionally prepared Provencal classics. A nice touch of café culture here in downtown Edmonton.

★★★★☆

HOTEL

HOTEL MACDONALD (CONFEDERATION LOUNGE) (10065-100 ST) Wondering whatever happened to the grand old tradition of hotel dining? It's at the Hotel Macdonald. But if you're not up to dropping some large coin on a meal, pop by the Mac's Confederation Room for a glass of wine and a bite to eat. It's a guilty pleasure everyone should experience once.

★★★★☆

INDIAN

TANDOORI GRILL EXPRESS & MONTREAL DELI (6508-75 ST) Despite the odd menu, these folks are capable of some fine cuisine. If you go, spend some time chatting with the staff and see if they can prepare any of your favourites. If so, you just might find that you have a new favourite.

★★★★☆

★★★★☆

ITALIAN

SANTOS PIZZA AND STEAK (10821-95 ST) Excellent place for a lunchtime sandwich in the heart of Edmonton's little Italy. It's not all fancy schmancy and uptight, but then again it isn't all fancy schmancy and uptight. They offer good standard Italian fare, prepared well at reasonable prices. What's not to like?

★★★★☆

KOSHER

CAFÉ LEVI (EUROPA BOULEVARD, WEM) You've got to be meshuggeneh if you think there's a better place for falafels in Edmonton. The next time you're in the mall and need a bite, do yourself a favour and give this kosher food counter a try for an orthodox take on traditional mall fare.

★★★★☆

MIDDLE EASTERN

KAMIL'S TURKISH CAFÉ AND RESTAURANT (12408-118 AVE) If you're the type who can relax and just go with the flow and not be too put off by Kamil's location and informal nature, you might have a new favourite little spot for some down-home Turkish food.

★★★★☆

PIZZA

FAMOSO NEAPOLITAN PIZZERIA (11750 JASPER AVE) If you're interested in good food in a fast-food atmosphere, you're looking for franchise opportunities, look no further than Famoso. They serve authentic Neapolitan pizzas, as per the regulations set out by the Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana, and they do it quickly.

★★★★☆

Rogers OMNI Television is coming to Alberta!

Rogers OMNI Television is a Canadian, multilingual, multicultural media company that will soon be producing and airing television programs here in Alberta. We are excited to announce our imminent launch of free, over-the-air television stations in both Edmonton and Calgary. These stations will serve Alberta's ethnocultural communities, with more than 75 hours of ethnic programming each week. We are planning prime time regional newscasts, with news gathering and production facilities in Edmonton and Calgary. All together, we will air programming in 20 different languages, serving 20 different ethnic groups.

Imagine working for an exciting entrepreneurial company where employees are committed to meeting big challenges and making a real difference. Rogers OMNI Television is part of a leading communications and media company where people come to do great work. Right now we are looking for talented individuals to join our winning team where you will have a chance to innovate, grow and to do what really matters. We are interested in success at many levels and we foster a team-based, respectful and dynamic culture where accountability, new ideas and mutual respect mean the most.

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HIGHLIGHT • SKINTASTIC



Shopping For Art? If you're into a little sting, you can use your bod as a display wall. PHOTO SUPPLIED

INKFEST • Apr 25-27 • Northlands Agricom

Tattoo and body art fests are usually closed-door affairs—open only to industry members and artists. While there's definite value to keeping industry secrets, the general curiosity outside the inked world is exploding, especially now with one out of every five people sporting at least one tatt. Even if you're not shopping for ink yourself, there'll be a beer garden and derby girls on hand.

EVENTS

THE CARROT ARTS MARKET EVERY SAT. 10 AM-3 PM

THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE, 935-118 AVE. Artists and artisans from the community and beyond share unique gifts, crafts, and artwork. Info: www.thecarrot.ca

CHILD HAVEN DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION APR 26, 6-10 PM. MAHARAJAH BANQUET HALL, 9257-34A AVE. Indian buffet and auction in support of Child Haven International. Tickets: \$30 at www.childhaven.ca

EDMONTON FASHION WEEK UNTIL APR 30, CHURCHILL SQUARE Runway presentations, salon showcase, Emerging Designer and Stylist competitions, and Fashion Alley shopping market. Single night tickets and festival passes available at the door or TIX.

THE GOOD MEDICINE FILM FESTIVAL MONTHLY SCREENINGS, STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, 87 CHURCHILL SQUARE

MAY 10, 2 pm "Seducing Dr. Lewis." Various health related films presented throughout the semester. Info: www.ahhm.med.ualberta.ca

GROWING VISION ART SHOW MAY 9, 7 PM. CITY CENTRE CHURCH, PARAMOUNT THEATRE. Painting, photography, fashion, music. All proceeds go to Human and the Belize Project. Info: arts@citycentrechurch.com

MAY DAY CELEBRATION MAY 3, 8 PM. STANLEY MILNER LIBRARY THEATRE, 87 CHURCHILL SQUARE Local music and dance performances presented by the Parkland Institute. Tickets: \$15 at Earth's General Store or 492-8553

MURDER MYSTERY APR 25, 7 PM. LA BOHEME, 6427-112 AVE. 3 course dinner, actors, and live action clues. Tickets: \$85 at 203-1772 or 474-5693

PECHA KUCHA MAY 1, 6:30 PM. WINSPEAR CENTRE Young designers meet, network, and discuss their projects. Each designer gives a presentation of 20 images, each shown for

20 seconds. Tickets: \$5 all the door.
PLANET PARTY APR 27, 10 PM. JOHN JANZEN NATURE CENTRE, 7000-143 ST. Activities, games, plus composting and recycling workshops with John Acom. Tickets: \$2 adults, \$5.50 family at door.
SPRING DOG WASH MAY 10, VARIOUS LOCATIONS Animal Cancer Therapy Subsidization Society Fundraiser. Info and Locations at www.actssalberta.org
WOMEN'S GATHERING EVENT APR 25-27 BONNIE DOON HALL, 9240-93 ST. Workshops, activities, food and entertainment. Info: Mary, 439-9039 or www.womengathering.com

MEETINGS

ACCA EVERY MON, INCLUDING HOLIDAYS, 7:30 PM. BSM.T. BRASIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1111 BERNARD DR. ST. ALBERT, CORNER OF BISHOP ST. & SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL AVE. USE NORTH ENTRANCE. Twelve-step support program for adult children of alcoholic and dysfunctional families.

ALBERTA ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION 3RD TUE EVERY MONTH, 5:30-9 PM. THE FACULTY CLUB, 11435 ASK DR. Pre-register at www.aea.ab.ca

CINE-CLUB D'EDMONTON 1ST MON EVERY MONTH, 7 PM. AUDITORIUM DU CAMPUS SAINT-JEAN, U OF A. Donations accepted at the door.

EDMONTON NATURE CLUB MONTHLY MEETINGS. ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 12845-102 AVE. APR 18, 7 pm. "The Many Ways to Paint a Red Bird" with speaker Dr. Jocelyn Hudon, curator of ornithology at the Royal Alberta Museum. Informative monthly meetings with guest speakers. Info: Mark, 430-7134 or rae@telusplanet.net

FORWARD THINKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB TUE, 7 PM. STRATHCONA COMMUNITY BUILDING, 2001 SHERWOOD DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK. Build self-confidence and communication skills. Info: 322-3835

FRENCH CONVERSATION THU, ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE, 8702, 8627 RUE MARIE-ANNE GABOURY. Info: Godfrey, 469-0399

FRENCH MEETUP Informal conversation group, all levels of French speakers welcome. Info: frenchmeetup.com/236 or 720-5169

GREAT EXPEDITIONS, HOSTEL TRAVEL 2ND MON EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM. HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL, 10640-81 AVE. MAY 12 "Malaysia" by Daryl Richel. Everyone welcome. For presentation schedule or info: Sylvia, 454-6216 or

455-6741

HIP MAMAS MEET-UP Young mothers and their babies meet several times a week. Free to join, plenty of friends to be made. Info: hipmamas.meetup.com/151/

ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 8 PM. WOODY'S, 32ND FL., 11723 JASPER AVE. Cross-dressers, transsexuals, friends, and supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton.illusions

IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB 2ND AND 4TH THU EVERY MONTH, 8 PM. SEP-MAY PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL, 10860-57 AVE. Presentations, speakers, workshops, outings, monthly and year-end competitions. Photographers enthusiasts of all levels welcome. Info: www.imagesab.ca or Sheila, 469-9776; Muffy, 452-6224

INNOVATORS' NETWORKING CLUB TUE, 11:30 AM-1 PM. CAFE SELECT SOUTH, 109 ST. & 84 AVE. Business networking group, mixer, and club membership drive. Info: Dwayne, 463-6240 or dwayne@bblhaken.ca

MKP MEN'S GROUP EVERY MON, 7 PM. Men's meeting. Info: www.mkp.org or Garrett, 452-5107

NORATORS TOASTMASTERS CLUB WED, 7-8:45 PM. LONDON DERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY, LONDON DERRY MALL, 137 AVE. & 66 ST. Learn to speak clearly and with confidence in a supportive group. Info: www.norators.com

NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CLUB THU, 8-10 PM, 10425 KINGSWAY AVE. Improve public speaking and communications skills in a fun and educational environment. Info: 465-3934 or www.norwoodtoastmasters.org

POWER SPEAKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB WED, 7-9 PM. GRANT MACLEAN COLLEGE CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, RM 437. Learn to speak with confidence in a supportive environment. Info: 732-0693 or www.powerspeakers.ca

SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES Weekly drop-in meetings, providing resources and information on self-esteem, mental health, and employment. Men welcome to attend. Info: 496-5930

TOURETTE SYNDROME SUPPORT 1ST WED EVERY MONTH (OCT-UNE), 7 PM. ACADEMY OF KING EDWARD, 8525-101 ST., NORTH DOOR. Meeting for TS adults and parents of TS kids. Info: 1-866-824-9764

UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS CLUB WED, 7-8:30 PM. RM 601, NORQUEST COLLEGE, 10715-108 ST. Improve listening, speaking, and overall communication skills. Info: Roger, 454-3720, Theresa, 488-4098, or adam@kthelus.net

WEST-END TOASTMASTER CLUB TUE, 6:45-9 PM. JASPER PLACE LIBRARY, 9010-156 ST. Friendly environment of personal progress and mutual support. Info: 495-5424

WOW-WIRED ON WORDS SUN, 11 AM-1:15 PM. THREE

BANANAS CAFE, CHURCHILL SQUARE An eclectic creative writing group welcoming both professional and amateur writers. Suggested donation \$10. Monthly meetings. Info: bewell2008@gmail.com

YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE 2ND FRI EVERY MONTH, 5 PM. REMEDY CAFE, 8631-109 ST. For discussions/topics and suggested readings go to www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=3559215104

HEALTH & WELLNESS

CANADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE 11205-101 ST.

479-1999 A range of services for members of the Native community, including a free community lunch Fridays at noon, employment and Public Health information, counseling referrals and one-on-one support, AADAC & Legal Aid referrals, low cost or free beds, housing and clothing referrals. Info: 479-1999

CLUB LULULU LULULEMON, 10544-82 AVE. Weekly activities to get you moving. Info: www.lululemon.com, 435-9363 or whyte-community@lululemon.com

COMMUNITY WEIGHT-LOSS CHALLENGE VARIOUS LOCATIONS 6-week course advising diet and active lifestyle. Info: Carla, 966-0185

CONSTELLATION EVERY 1ST & 3RD WED, 7 PM, 10431-37 AVE. A unique healing process, transforming past burdens into positive affirmations. Info: 967-9162 or constellation-currents.ca

FREE YOGA CLASS EVERY SUN, 6-7 PM. LULULEMON ATHLETIC KINGSWAY All levels welcome, new styles each week, mats provided. Info: 471-1200 or kingswaygarden-community@lululemon.com

GENTLE YOGA RADHA YOGA 9946-87 AVE. Weekly classes in small group settings. Sunday Satsang (by donation). Call for schedule and fees. Info: 432-3363 or www.radha.org

LIVE SMART DIABETES EXPO MAY 10, 8 AM-3 PM. MAYFIELD INN & SUITES, 16615-109 AVE. Educational event presented by Canadian Diabetes Association. Tickets: \$13 at www.diabetes.ca/expo

LIVING POSITIVE TUE, 7-9 PM. SUITE 50, 9912-106 ST. Confidential space where POC people can discuss and share common issues of concern. A peer-driven AIDS service organization, providing direct support to people living with HIV in Alberta. Info: 488-5768 or edmi@livingpositive.ca

LIVING WITH LOSS MAY 6, 6:30-8:30 PM. WHITEMUD CROSSING LIBRARY, MAY 7, 10 AM-NOON. SAGE, 15 SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL SQUARE Edmonton Bereavement Centre presentation on grieving and support. Info and registration: Linda, 454-1231 ext. 274

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(for x-tra POP,
add soda or cola)

LOTUS SOUL GYM YOGA STUDIO 10518-82 AVE. Multidisciplinary yoga studio offering drop-in and registered classes in hatha, vinyasa flow, Pilates, yoga for runners, pre-natal, post-natal, mommy & me, and partner workshops. All levels welcome. Info: www.lotussoulgym.com, 434-9647 or info@lotussoulgym.com

MADELINE SANAM FOUNDATION 3RD & 4TH SAT EVERY MONTH 9 AM-5 PM FACILITATE SAINT-JEAN, 8406-91 ST. RM 318 An organization for the emancipation and autonomy of African women, providing on economy, community health, training on HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and harm reduction. French, English and African languages. Admission free for members, membership \$10. Info: 490-7332

MEDITATION AND BUDDHIST TEACHINGS GADEN SAMTEN LING TIBETAN BUDDHIST MEDITATION SOCIETY, 14103-101 ST. Meditation and Buddhist teachings by resident teacher, Tibetan Buddhist monk Kishok Lobzang Dhamchoe. Beginners Tue 7 pm, Intermediate Wed 7 pm. Advanced practices Sun 11 am. Info: 479-0014 or www.gadensamten.org

MS ACTIVE NOW 1150, 9405-50 ST. Recreation and physical wellness programs. Info: 471-3034

RADHA YOGA VARIOUS LOCATIONS Classes include gentle hatha, hidden language/reflexive hatha, dream yoga, kundalini/power of choice and meditation. Info: 432-3363

RAJA YOGA MEDITATION #208, 10122-105 ST. In association with Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization. Info: www.bkwsa.org or 425-1050

RIVER VALLEY RUNNERS TUE & THU 5:15-6:45 PM, RIVERDALE COMMUNITY HALL, 8231-100 AVE. Coached training for running on Edmonton's extensive river valley trails, includes warm up and cooldown. Info: www.rivervalleyrunners.net or 447-1909

TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY THU 6:30-7:30 PM, ALLEMANDE COMMUNITY LEAGUE, 6300-1054 ST. Weight loss support and information. First meeting is free. Info: TOPS4900@hotmail.com

TRANQUILITY MEDITATION WED 7 PM, 10502-70 AVE. Tibetan tradition. Free, beginners welcome, instruction available. Info: Lama Ani Kunsang, 633-6157 or www.karmatschilling.org

VEGETARIANS OF ALBERTA Monthly events, potluck dinners, and dine-out nights for vegetarians and vegans. Monthly newsletter includes articles on health, environment, and compassion. Info: events@voa.ca or www.VoA.ca

LEARNING

AFRICAN DANCE CLASSES 10275 JASPER AVE. Movements, the Afro-Caribbean dance ensemble, offers African dance classes and workshops at all levels. Info: 415-5211 or www.movementsdance.com

ARTIST SUCCESS PROGRAM UNTIL APR 30, EVERY WED. Learn to match your creative talent with business strategies to sell your art. Info: 499-0521

BEDOUIN BEATS MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE 2ND FLOOR, 12718 JASPER AVE. For all skill levels. Info: 712-9773 or dense@beaabdellad.com

DROP-IN ART FOR THE ARTIST AT HEART PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY, 10 PERRON ST. ST. ALBERT. Info: Glenda, 460-4310 or ahglenda@telus.net

EDMONTON CHESS CLUB Learning and playing opportunities for students and families. Info: 474-2318 or rovingchessnuts@shaw.ca

EDMONTON WEAVERS' GUILD Classes on weaving, spinning and various workshops. Info: Sonja, 425-1152 or ewg@interbaun.com

EDMONTON WRITERS' CENTRE STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, 77 CHURCHILL SQUARE. A creative space for writers of all genres and levels. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-9 pm, Sat 9 am-6 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Info: 496-7070

FAYA WORKSHOPS The Film and Video Arts Society offers one-night workshops twice a month in a variety of media activities. Info: www.faya.ca or 429-1671

FLAMENCO LESSONS SUN & MON, 2:30-3:30 PM. Judith and Oscar Jose Garcia teach both Flamenco dance & guitar. Info: 1-780-349-4843 or ogarcia@telusplanet.net

CREATIVITY WORKSHOP MAY 21 AND JUN 18, 7-9 PM, CITY CHURCH OF EDMONTON, 13210-106 AVE. Workshops to develop tools to compose songs, music, poetry and writings. No prior experience needed. Taught by Cindi Zubry. Info: 913-6466

HARCOURT HOUSE ART CLASSES JAN-APR A variety of low-cost classes specializing in drawing, pastels, painting, and other mediums, taught by professional artists and educators. Info: www.harcourthouse.ab.ca or 426-4180

HIDDEN LANGUAGE APR 27 HATHA YOGA workshops combining yoga poses, reflection and journaling. Info: 432-3163, radhayoga@shaw.ca or www.radha.org

HORTICULTURE CLASSES MAR-MAY DEVONIAN BOTANIC GARDEN, HWY 60 Every Tue, until May 3, 7-9 pm "Master Mushroom Identification". Every Wed Apr 30-MAY 14, 7-9:30 pm, "Water Garden Construction". Registration/Info: 987-2064

KARATE INSTRUCTION Classes for kids over 10, teens, and adults. Info: www.manataniwini.com or 975-6910

KITA NO TAIKO JAPANESE DRUMMING WORKSHOPS Schedules, info, and registration: www.kitanotaikei.ca or

431-0300
MARS HILL CENTRE 88318-104 ST., 435-0202 Classes and workshops on the recovery process. Registration on a sliding scale, based on participant's income. Info: www.marshallcentre.com
MEDIA MAG WORKSHOPS EDMONTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, #600, 9990 JASPER AVE. Info: www.mediamag.ca or 695-5675
NORTHERN RIVER KARATE SCHOOL TUE, THU & SAT, BELGRAVIA COMMUNITY HALL, 11540-73 AVE. Weekly classes in Karate, Kobudo, Yoga, Qi Gong, and Sitting Meditation. Info: www.threebattles.com

QUEER

AGAPE EDUCATION FACILITY, U OF A CAMPUS Focus group on sex and gender differences in education and culture. Pre-service and practicing teachers, community members welcome. Info: andre.grace@ualberta.ca or 492-0772

EPS/LGBTQ LIAISON COMMITTEE The EPS/LGBTQ Liaison Committee is composed of a variety of concerned lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified,

two-spirited, queer, allied community members, and police officers. Email questions or concerns to epslgbt@ualberta.ca. All inquiries treated with confidentiality and respect. To report a hate or bias motivated crime, contact the EPS Hate & Bias Crime Unit, 431-3469

INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus-based organization for LGBTQ faculty, graduate, academic & staff. Straight allies welcome. Monthly meetings. Info: kwells@ualberta.ca or mwaham@ualberta.ca

PRIDE CENTRE 9540-111 AVE., 488-3234 Hours: Tue-Fri 1-10 pm, Sat 12-6:30 pm. Drop-in, library, and community internet services are available. Online newsletter. Info: Fri-10 pm, Sat 12-6:30 pm. Info: 488-3234 or www.pridecentredmton.org

TEAM EDMONTON A volunteer operated, non-profit society for members and friends of the GLBT community, offering well organized and fun sporting events and other recreational activities within a positive social framework. Info: www.teamdmton.com

WOMONSPACE Non-profit lesbian organization for Edmonton and surrounding area. Organized monthly activities. Memberships available, including monthly newsletter. Confidentiality assured. Info: www.gayandnude.com/womon-space, womonspace@gmail.com, or 482-1994

YOUTHSPACE PRIDE CENTRE OF EDMONTON, 9540-111 AVE. An after-school drop-in program for gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans-identified, queer, questioning and allied (GLBTQQA) youth under 25. Open Tue-Sat 3-7 pm. Info: brendan@pridecentredmton.org or 488-3234

THURSDAY

BI-SEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM. A social group for bi-curious and bi-sexual women. Info: groups.yahoo.com/group/bwmedmton

COCAINE ANONYMOUS MEETING 7 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. CA Hotline: 425-7715

FREE TO BE INTERMEDIATE VOLLEYBALL 8-10 PM, 101 AMISKWACY ACADEMY Info: volleyball@teamdmton.ca

GAYWIRE 6 PM, CSR 8:5 PM Edmonton's only radio show concerning gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered lives. News, local and international features, and community events.

GLBT SENIORS DROP IN 1:30-3:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Social meeting for seniors of all genders. Info: 488-3234

ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 8 PM, 800TS, 10242-106 ST. Cross-dressers, transsexuals, friends, and supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton.illusions

FRIDAY

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT 6 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.

SATURDAY

NORTHERN CHAPS 1ST & 3RD SAT EVERY MONTH, 9 PM, 800TS, 10242-106 ST. Edmonton's original leather-fetish-uniform club. Info: main@northernchaps.com or www.northernchaps.com

NORTHERN TITANS GLBT BOWLING LEAGUE 7 PM, GATEWAY LANES & RECREATION CENTRE, #100, 3414 GATEWAY BLVD. \$15 per person. Info: bowling@teamdmton.ca

SINGLE LESBIANS OVER 40 Women's social group, monthly gatherings for conversation over tea and coffee. Info: singlewomen40plus@hotmail.com

SUIT UP & SHOW UP NOON, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. AA Big Book study. Info: 488-3234

YOUTH UNDERSTANDING YOUTH 7-9 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, straight, and questioning youth (up to 25) gather to have fun and learn in a safe, supportive environment. Info: yuy@shaw.ca

SUNDAY

ARCTIC FRONTRUNNERS 10 AM Runners of all levels of ability welcome. Runs are typically 6-8 Km, usually 44-60 minutes. Coffee afterwards. Info on venues and other runs during the week running@teamdmton.ca, or 436-7892

BALLROOM DANCING 8:30-10 PM All gender combina-

tions welcome. Salsa, rumba, waltz, live. Info: 469-3281 or ballroom@teamdmton.ca
EDMONTON PRIDE TIMERS (EPT) 2ND SUN MOST MONTHS, 2:30 PM, UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON, 10804-119 ST. Older gay men and admirers meet for a social period, short business meeting. Followed by guest speaker, discussion panel, or potluck supper. Special interest groups meet for other activities throughout the month. EPT is affiliated with Prime Timers World Wide. Info: edmontongt@yaho.ca or www.primetimersworldwide.com

HATHA YOGA 2:30-3 PM, LION'S BREATH YOGA. Introductory level class, free. No previous experience required. Bring yoga mat or towel and water. Info: yoga@teamdmton.ca

LAMBDA CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 7 PM, GARNEAU UNITED CHURCH, 11148-84 AVE. Lambda provides a safe and healing space for Edmonton's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and heterosexual Christians. All denominations and faiths welcome. Info: 861-8611 or lambdacur@shaw.ca

MEN TALKING WITH PRIDE 7 PM, PRIDE CENTRE 9540-111 AVE. Men's social and discussion group, facilitated by Rob Wells. Info: robwells70@hotmail.com or 488-3234

SOUL OUTING 8 PM SUN EVERY MONTH, 7 PM, ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH, 10209 123 ST. LGBT-focused alternative worship. Info: 482-1587 or email jraevenscroft@twic.org

SOUTHMINSTER-STEINHILF UNITED CHURCH 10 AM, 10140-19 AVE. Welcomes all sexual orientations. Info: 987-4934

SPIRITUAL LIVING CENTRE Info: www.spirituallivingcentre.com or 589-3752

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH 10 AM, 1526-76 AVE. All orientations welcome for Sunday service. Info: 436-1555 or www.williammiller.ca

TRANS EDUCATION & SUPPORT GROUP 1ST & 3RD SUN EVERY MONTH, 2 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Provides support and education for all transsexual, transgendered, intersexed, two-spirited, and questioning individuals. Info: www.albertatrans.org or 488-3234

WOMONSPACE BOARD MEETING 1ST SUN EVERY MONTH, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.

MONDAY

CURLING WITH PRIDE MON (UNTIL MAR 17), 7:15 PM, GRANITE CURLING CLUB, 8620-107 ST. Info: curling@teamdmton.ca

HIV SUPPORT GROUP 2ND MON EVERY MONTH, 7-9 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Info: Richard, 488-3234 or richard@pridecentredmton.org

TUESDAY

FREEDOM METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF EDMONTON 7:15 PM, 10886 MACDONALD DR. A church for all people. Info: 429-2321

GLBT SENIORS DROP IN 1:30-3:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Social meeting for seniors of all genders. Info: 488-3234

MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB NAIT POOL, 11762-106 ST. Recreational and competitive swimming and coaching. Beginners encouraged to participate. Practices every Tue (8-9 pm) and Thu (7:30-8:30 pm), followed by social meeting. Info: swimming@teamdmton.ca

OUTREACH 5 PM, HERITAGE ROOM, ATHABASCA HALL, U OF A CAMPUS U A based group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and straight-but-friendly students, staff, and faculty. Open to the community outside the U of A. Info: www.outreach.pixelsmthighly.com or outreach@ualberta.ca

PFLAG EDMONTON 1ST TUE EVERY MONTH, 7 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Support meeting for parents, families, and friends of GLBT individuals. Info: 488-3234

STEP AEROBICS 5 PM, AEROBICS STUDIO, KINSMEN SPORTS CENTRE, 9100 WALTERDALE HILL. Info: step@teamdmton.ca

TRANS SUPPORT GROUP 2ND TUE EVERY MONTH, 7:30-9:30 PM, GARNEAU UNITED CHURCH MEETING ROOM, 11148-84 AVE. Education and support group for trans-identified and questioning people. Info: 718-1412 or triqalliance@shaw.ca

TTIQ ALLIANCE 2ND TUE EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Support meeting for transgender, transsexual, intersex, and questioning individuals. Providing education, advocacy and support for men, women, and youth.

WEDNESDAY

EDMONTON RAINBOW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION 2ND WED EVERY MONTH Casual networking with the GLBT business community. Locations listed on www.edmontonrba.org

FREE TO BE RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL 8-10 PM, 101 AMISKWACY ACADEMY \$50 per season. Info: revolleyball@teamdmton.ca

OPEN DOOR CLUB 5 PM, GRANT MACWANE COLLEGE, CITY CENTRE CAMPUS, RM 6-217 Social group for GLBTQ students, faculty, and friends at GACC

TEAM EDMONTON BADMINTON 6 PM, OLIVER SCHOOL GYM, 10227-118 ST. Women's drop-in recreational badminton, all levels welcome. \$30 for the season, \$5 drop-in. Info: 465-3620

YOURS, MINE, OURS AND US (YMOU) 1ST AND 3RD WED EVERY MONTH Support group for GLBT parents, partners, and friends. Info: 426-6311 or 415-5434

YOUTH THEATRE PROJECT 7 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Using theatre to increase awareness and reduce homophobic bullying. No theatre experience required. Info: Emily, 488-3234 or emily@pridecentredmton.org

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A Love Letter To Ed- monton

MUSIC PREVIEW • AFTERPARTY RAP • BY YURI WUENSCH | 1,207 words
PHOTOS BY AARON PEDERSON

"A CITY IS ABOUT PEOPLE, AND THE NEW ALBUM IS REALLY ABOUT ME AND MY PEOPLE. ANYONE WHO ISN'T FROM HERE MIGHT LOOK AT THE ALBUM COVER AND THINK I JUST GOT A BUNCH OF HIPSTERS OFF THE STREET FOR A PHOTO SHOOT. BUT I'M LIKE, 'NO, THOSE ARE MY FRIENDS.' MOST OF THEM ARE PRETTY CLOSE TO ME. I'M VERY PROTECTIVE."

CADENCE WEAPON'S ACCLAIMED AFTERPARTY BABIES IS A BARBED TRIBUTE TO HIS HOME... AND OURS

CADENCE WEAPON

w/ Buck 65 (headliner), May 1 (8pm), McDougall United Church (10025-100 Ave). Tickets: \$25, available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca).

For the record, Rolie Pemberton can't say he's entirely sold on the idea of a new downtown arena. Not that he knows all the details. The 22-year-old rapper has been out of town a lot lately, a necessity now that his music career—you may have heard of his onstage name, Cadence Weapon—has taken off.

So, over a coffee at the Stanley Milner Library, looking out at the already "revitalized" Sir Winston Churchill Square, I tell him that the new arena is supposed to have a similarly rejuvenating effect on Edmonton's core. It might even become the cornerstone for The Quarters, the city's vision for upgrading downtown's unseemly east end. Shiny condos and chic restaurants would replace—okay, displace—low-income housing, group homes, and the homeless.

"But what happens to those people?" Pemberton asks.

People are close to Pemberton's thoughts these days, enough to inspire an entire album's worth of material. A hallmark of his 2005 debut, *Breaking Kayfabe*, was its unabashed attachment to Edmonton landmarks, like the underground tour of E-ville on "Oliver Square" or the way the diorama featured in his video for "Black Hand" bore more than a passing resemblance to Churchill Square—indeed, that footage, which features a shadowy black glove rising from the city's centre, now seems eerily prescient. Pemberton's new album, *Afterparty Babies*, is also a love letter to his hometown, but this one's less about the city's places and more about the good souls who inhabit them.

Hometown Woes

"I'm worried about Edmonton," Pemberton says. "I do feel like things are getting worse here. I'm not really sure a new arena will turn Edmonton into a vibrant metropolis. Edmonton's philosophy seems to be that we need to build the world's biggest baseball bat or something. If there were a bunch of bars and restaurants built around a new arena, they'd probably just be filled with people who couldn't afford to go the hockey game anyway. People already can't afford to live here. Cool things do happen here now and then, but it just doesn't balance out enough, and I think that's the way a lot of young people here are thinking now."

"Conceptually, the new album is

about the youth culture of Edmonton. I wanted it to relate to people I know, talk about people that I know, talk about situations that have happened to me—that kind of thing."

All that said, *Afterparty Babies* is first and foremost a fun, party-rocking electro rap album. And if you want Pemberton's opinion, it's also a far more successful creative effort than *Breaking Kayfabe*, which had a trial-by-error recording process and a staggered release date. On paper, a hip-hop album about Edmonton should never have found an audience

kinship with her," he says, "and have always found her to be a fascinating figure. I love watching the way people react to her. She's a character. She's always dealing with all kinds of musicians and I just had to write a song about her because I feel like I had a particular insight."

The album's cover photo, a "class photo" featuring Pemberton and a local cast of "afterparty babies," was shot in the basement of The Black Dog, one of a handful of bars he mentions on "Unsuccessful Club Nights": "It may be a Tuesday,

regimented, and homogenized concepts about what hip hop is or what DJs do are just as damaging.

Breakdancing Babies

"You'd think that in the 21st century people would know better," he says. "Because I'm a hip-hop artist, people expect me to play hip-hop exclusively when I DJ. To be a DJ, you need to be pretty versatile and have the ability to adapt. Your record bag should really have a little bit of everything. And what I've always liked about hip-hop is that you can basically tailor it to

there's nothing else to do. Touring is fun, but it's a lot of work and when I do have downtime I start Googling myself. Before, I didn't care about the reviews, but now I take it more to heart. It's a lot more personal."

While Pemberton now has cell phones with 416 and 212 area codes, he hasn't got any immediate plans to leave the River City Sure, public transit can be a bitch (there just wasn't a timely way to meet him at Bacon Restaurant on 65 Street and 112 Avenue for the interview like he wanted), the winters are spirit-



Define "Afterparty Baby" | One born from the fall-out of an all-night fiesta.

outside the city, let alone garner a Polaris Prize nomination or a major-label record deal. Go figure: Pemberton is now signed to the cooler-than-cool Epitaph subsidiary Anti-, and, on a more underground note, he's also signed to Ninja Tune sublabel Big Dada Recordings (home to the likes of Roots Manuva, Saul Williams, Diplo, and Spank Rock).

Even though he's hit the big time, Pemberton is keeping his lyrics close to home. So what if people from New York, London, or L.A. may not know former city music scenester Juliann Wilding (who gets a song named after her on *Afterparty Babies*)? Pemberton says they all probably know someone like her. "I developed a real

but there should be no excuse," he rhymes. "Hard-working people are dying to let loose." Inside the album sleeve, he and Nik Kozub of Shout Out Out Out Out man the turntables for a dance party at kHz, whose sometimes underaged crowd is remembered on tunes like "In Search of the Youth Crew."

Once home to one of the city's most down-to-earth vibes, kHz has unfortunately since gone bust—it was located, coincidentally, in the block that will eventually be part of the city's Quarters redevelopment plan. While the recent wave of club closures represent another aspect of the marginalization of Edmonton's youth culture, Pemberton says widespread,

whatever you want to talk about, and for me that's really open-ended. With rap, you can, say, sample a ukulele and turn it into a song about shoes or whatever you want. It just seemed like it was totally without boundaries, less regimented than rock, where you'd have to put in a guitar solo in a certain place.

"*Afterparty Babies*," he continues, "is kind of a weird record because a lot of people don't know how to take dance rap, which is pretty different from what I was doing on the first record. But the reviews so far have been 95 per cent positive. This time I am following a lot of the press, which I suppose I do more of now because of all the time on tour when

crushingly long, and the cost of living is going up exponentially... but Edmonton remains Pemberton's home."

"As a touring musician," he says, "I've now had the opportunity to visit a lot of different places. I've seen how things like downtown arenas develop in other cities and in my experience it just rots things out. But a city is about people and the new album is really about me and my people. Anyone who isn't from here might look at the album cover and think I just got a bunch of hipsters off the street for a photo shoot. But I'm like, 'No, those are my friends.' Most of them are pretty close to me. I'm very protective."

“THERE ARE LEGIONS OF PEOPLE OUT THERE THAT HAVE OUR **LOGO OR LYRICS TATTOOED....** THEY’RE WITH US FOR THE LONG HAUL.”

—NICK 13 ON TIGER ARMY’S INCREDIBLY LOYAL FANBASE

MUSIC PREVIEW • STAYIN’ ALIVE • BY MATT HUBERT | 822 words

The Nine Lives Of Nick 13

DESPITE ROSTER CHANGES AND TRAGIC SETBACKS, TIGER ARMY’S FRONTMAN KEEPS MARCHING FORWARD

TIGER ARMY

w/ The Urnsen & Hi Jim. Apr 30 (8pm). Starlite Room (10030-102 St.). Sold out.

Jerry Lee Lewis once advised would-be rock ‘n’ rollers to “either be hot or cold—if you are lukewarm, the Lord will spew you forth from his mouth.”

While Tiger Army has never burned up pianos with Billy Lee Riley and Carl Perkins (or robbed cradles or hammed it up for cheap nightclub gigs) like The Killer, these guys from Berkeley, California certainly have an appreciation for the pioneering sounds of rock, melding it into their signature Bay area brand of rockabilly-loaded hardcore. What’s more, they’ve endured changes that would have crippled or downright finished lesser bands.

Since forming in 1995, guitarist and lead singer Nick 13 has been Tiger Army’s only permanent fixture: more than a half-dozen former bandmates and close friends have contributed to touring and recording, including AFI’s Adam Carson and Samhain drummer London May. After two albums, extensive touring, and a number of lineup changes, Nick and founding member Geoff Kresge put other commitments on hold in early 2003 and settled in with drummer Fred Hell to record *Tiger Army III: Ghost Tigers Rise*.

But just prior to recording, Hell was shot four times during a home invasion and, facing a lengthy and difficult rehabilitation, was unable to play on the album. The album was completed with the aid of Rancid drum tech Mike Fasano, and proved

to be some of the band’s most impassioned and melodically rich work to date.

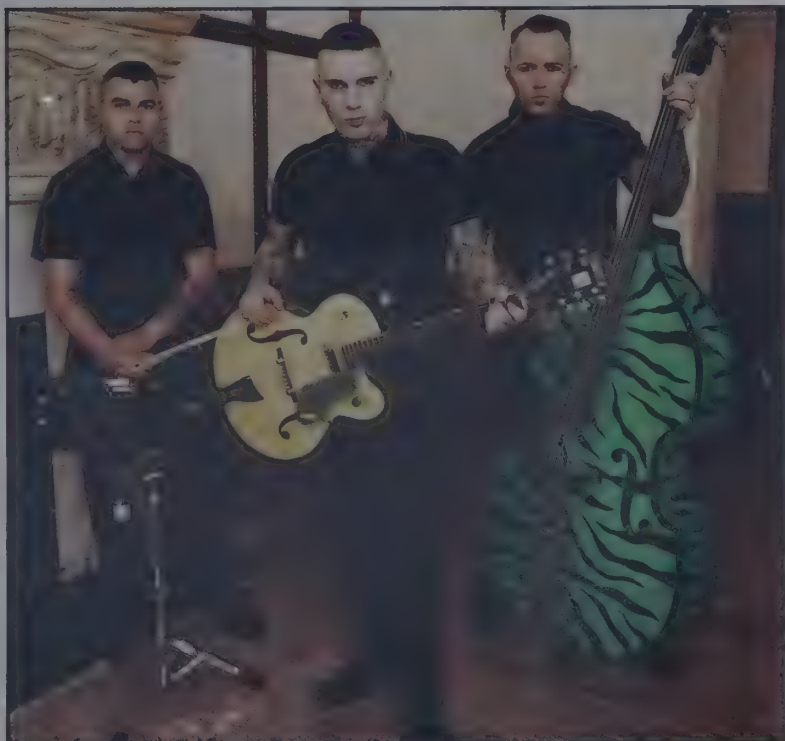
“I think to some extent my writing method has allowed us to persevere through the changes,” says Nick. “Some bands are dependent on the chemistry between two or more people for songwriting, and if one of them leaves, so does the magic of the new songs. There’s definitely on-stage chemistry between the players in Tiger Army, but the fact that I’ve always done all the writing made us a little less fragile in that sense.”

“Every band says, ‘We’ve got some of the best and most loyal fans in the world,’ but I feel like that’s actually been proven,” he continues. “There are legions of people out there that have our logo or lyrics tattooed, and so many others who won’t turn their backs over this or that. They’re with us for the long haul. There’s a level of dedication there that you just don’t see every day.”

That devotion has buoyed Tiger Army through a series of headlining tours through the U.K. and Australia, supporting gigs for their fellow Californians in AFI, along with several dates opening for Morrissey. Indeed, TA’s new album *Music From Regions Beyond* reaches a realm of synth-tinged melodic prowess Moz would be proud of.

“We’ve always had some unusual influences from the start, whether it was gothic literature, or 1950s hill-billy and honkytonk music,” Nick explains.

“Maturity’ is kind of an ugly word to me, but if you start off as a young punk rocker, your mind definitely opens a bit as time goes on. You realize that good music comes from a lot of different places, some of which have nothing to do with punk. Certain fans want you to stay in a certain



Army Of Three | Nick 13 has had to recruit more and more replacement soldiers for his Army. PHOTO SUPPLIED

year forever, but it’s impossible. It wouldn’t be good even if you tried to do that, but many bands do. For me, each record is a new challenge and a new chapter.

“The thing that strikes me when I see our audiences in many countries, many regions of the world is that there are people from almost every rock ‘n’ roll subculture: punks, psychobillies and rockabilles, hardcore kids, goths, metalheads, skinheads, indie kids—the list goes on. Maybe

they’re all there for the same reason, or maybe they’re all responding to different elements of our sound that relate to the specific music they’re into.”

Kresge has rejoined the band for this tour; he’ll be joined by drummer James Meza to round out what is arguably Tiger Army’s strongest lineup in years. These cats have many lives still left in them, and they’re ready to make up for lost time.

“We’ve wanted to do a full Cana-

dian tour since we started touring,” Nick says, “but something or other always got in the way.... It’s a shame, because Canada is such a great country to visit and play, but it’s so much hassle for a U.S. band to set up a tour there and cross the border. I’ve always heard Edmonton’s got a great scene and I believe it was the first show on this tour to sell out! As far as what people can expect, Warped is fun, but a true Tiger Army show is at night.”



Bring it on, you pussy Euro Djs | LA’s lurid and Johnny Love, better known as Guns N’ Bombs, will fill in for the shem-no-show French DJ, Kavinsky. But they’ll bring it better anyway. Because they’re younger, and ruder. And on bicycles! PHOTO SUPPLIED

HOT TICKETS • MUST-SEE SHOWS

GIMME GROOVE
GUNS N’ BOMBS
Pawn Shop • Apr 24
\$5 | At the door

Minutes after Kavinsky cancelled his second scheduled Edmonton show (jerkass!), much to the disappointment of NRMLS WLCM, Guns N’ Bombs stepped up to the challenge, and should sufficiently rock Thursday night’s “huzzah exams are over!” crowd on their asses in any case. The L.A. electro duo are being hailed by the *Montreal Mirror* as the act that may singlehandedly “blow current German electro standards out of the water and give Paris’s New French Touch a run for its money”. So there, Kavinsky. So there.

GIMME CHORAL
Pro Coro with Linda Perillo
Winspear Centre • Apr 27
\$30-\$50 | Winspear box office, 428-1414

Celebrating the return of internationally acclaimed soprano and Pro Coro founding member Linda Perillo, Edmonton’s award-winning choral outfit performs a benefit recital with a program hand-picked by Perillo herself, including favourites by Vivaldi, Handel, and Bach. The Colin Ryan String Quartet and Jeremy Spurgeon (organ, piano, and any other keys you can dream of) will be on hand for backup, along with the Pro Coro Celebrity Chorus, featuring the likes of Ben Henderson, Lark Clark, Bridget Ryan, and Kate Ryan.

GIMME ‘90S
Live
River Cree Resort & Casino • Apr 25
\$44.50 | At Ticketmaster.ca

Yeah, maybe you had the same reaction we did when this press release came in: “Holy shit—Live is still... alive?” They sure are, and just like the rest of the leftover ‘90s talents who breeze through the River Cree every now and then, they’re touring to promote a compilation album released late last year. Ah well—being all of 15 years old when I went through that “Lightning Crashes” rock-rinse-repeat phase, I suppose seeing Ed Kowalczyk really truly live would finally salve all those sentimental schoolgirl woes.

MUSIC PREVIEW • **PROG FROGS** • BY EAMON MCGRATH | 385 words

Prog Is Not A Dirty Word

GRAHAM EPP SAYS MAHOGANY FROG'S BRAND OF JAZZY, INSTRUMENTAL ROCK IS NOTHING TO SNEER AT

MAHOGANY FROG

w/ The Summerland, Apr 25 (8pm). Velvet Underground (10030-102 SX). Tickets: \$10.

Progressive rock has been hibernating for the better part of 30 years: ever since The Clash and The Sex Pistols made 30-minute guitar solos, extravagant stage setups, and complex, classically inspired time changes seem like the provenance of dinosaurs, bands have avoided of labeling themselves anything close to proggy.

Saskatchewan's Mahogany Frog, however, are resurrecting the prog genre. Born in Saskatoon (a city not exactly known for its thriving prog scene), their live setup includes a keyboard rack big enough to make

Uriah Heep and Yes sweat with jealousy, a drummer capable of handling even the most algebraic time signatures, and a sound that's thick, cerebral, and psychedelic, while steering clear of pretension.

"Prog has been a dirty word with the indie scenesters for a while now," says Mahogany Frog keyboardist/guitarist Graham Epp. "I don't really see that there is a modern sense of the word and that's why the kids sort of shy away from it. Until quite recently I had no idea that there even was a current prog scene. We tapped into the U.S. prog community on this tour and realized there are a lot of folks who are dedicated to anything that falls under the prog umbrella. It's mostly an older group, but one that is very supportive of the bands I don't think that the indie kids would ever flock to a band like these crazies."

And that relentless touring has helped the band develop a tight live

act that bounces from one time signature and texture to the next with a minimum of effort—at least onstage. "We're currently on a five-week tour," Epp says, "so there's been months of preparation for this. Moving from Saskatoon to Winnipeg [five years ago] enabled us to find a solid and permanent bass player. The sound of Mahogany Frog has had more to do with a solid lineup of musicians than a change of location...."

"The sound has definitely evolved. We were a two-guitar, bass, and drums ensemble until we added a keyboardist on our *Living Sounds* record. Then as we moved to Winnipeg we picked up an old Farfisa organ and an ARP synth and started to get into the keys."

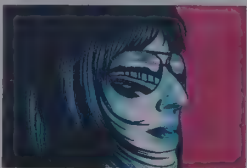
It took years for Mahogany Frog to reach this point of perfect proggy-ness. But we sure are glad they took their time.



Where's Kermit? | These frogs got nothing to do with the Muppets. PHOTO SUPPLIED

ROAD STORIES • **HAUNTED VENUES** | 573 words

Ghosts In Ottersum



EAR TO THE ASPHALT **ANN VRIEND**
WENDY MCNEILL TELLS A SUPERSPOOKY TALE OF A DUTCH CATHEDRAL FILLED WITH SPIRITS... AND ACTORS

Somewhat appropriate to the "folk noir" genre in which she places herself, Wendy McNeill's tour story is about a haunted venue in the small Dutch town of Ottersum, where she opened for Norwegian songstress Ane Brun.

"It was in an old cathedral that used to be an orphanage," McNeill begins, "then a place for retired nuns, then it was abandoned for years and years. In the '60s hippies moved in, but eventually problems with heroin and squatters started to happen, so they all got evicted, and it was empty again for another 10 years. It had this really weird history behind it, and I knew about this history before I was going to play there."

"It was an autumn day, it was windy and raining when we were pulling up—and it was creepy. We had to put all our gear onto this black iron elevator with squeaking wheels, and slowly rattle up the outside of the building, four stories, to get to the main room of this cathedral. As that was happening, I looked down and saw these two ghostlike figures

walking out from the trees. I'm totally serious: old, tattered clothes, white, crazy hair. I was obviously very startled."

"And I wasn't the only one who saw it!" she adds. "We all were like, 'What the hell!?'"

"We started doing soundcheck and there were these strange sounds and drafts of cold air to the point where we'd hear moaning. At first we thought it was feedback, then we'd stop and say, 'Did you hear that?' And yep, we all heard it."

"So we were gradually getting more and more freaked out. After soundcheck we go to our band eating area, and we have to go down these winding, dark stairs, and through this place with long cathedral ceilings and narrow hallways, all candlelit—very creepy. And the whole time we hear this 'Wooooo! Wooooo!', like a cross between crying and moaning."

"We basically lock ourselves into the dining area, and the guitar player—who's this six and a half foot Scandinavian guy—goes out to use the washroom. We hear this blood-curdling scream and he comes running in, and looks completely frail. Through his chattering teeth he quickly tries to describe this ghost woman that ended up screaming in his face."

"Wait," I say. "It wasn't him who screamed?"

"It was the ghost that screamed!" McNeill says. "It was a woman's voice—although he probably screamed too!" She pauses. "Or maybe it was him, and he just blamed it on the ghost. In any case, at this



Spooky Wendy | Despite the Folk Noir label, Wendy McNeill is still no fan of ghosts. PHOTO SUPPLIED

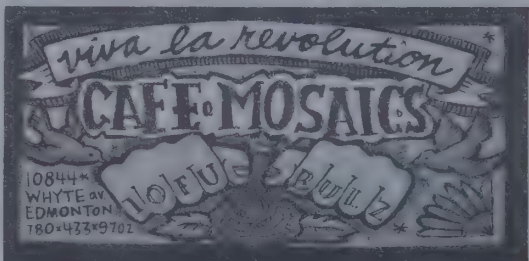
point we were like, 'That's it, we're getting out of here.'

"But the door opens again and the artistic director comes in, and four other ghostlike people come in behind him. In between hearty laughs he introduces us to these people who are actors in residence that were performing a cathedral theme for the month of October and Halloween. So they were just messing with us."

"It was brutal, and totally mean. But pretty funny—afterwards. And then we had an incredible medieval feast, and had a great time with them."

"The joke," she concludes, "was definitely on us."

McNeill returns to Edmonton for a sold-out show at the Transalta Arts Barns as part of Night of Artists on April 27. I haven't heard anything about the Arts Barns being haunted, but then again, you never know... Bring a flashlight, maybe?



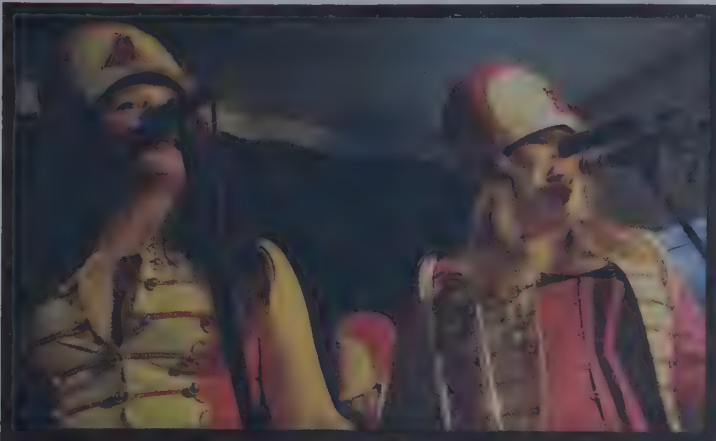
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SEEN IT LIVE • GREAT GIGS YOU MISSED LAST WEEK



Let Me Whisper Sweet Nothings in Your Ears | Or shout, rather. The ladies of the Wet Secrets—Kim Racket and Donna Ball, with teeny Doug Organ in the back—celebrate the release of their new CD, *Rock Fantasy*, last Friday night at the ARtery. PHOTO BY FISH GRINKOWSKY

KEEPING IT WEIRD

THE WET SECRETS W/ BELGIUM THE ARTERY • APR 18

Mother Nature can be a cruel mistress, but rock 'n' roll fans defied her with a stellar party last Friday. Wintry roads got the best of Calgary garage rockers Gaye Rage, but locals Belgium filled the opening spot without missing a beat. Okay, they missed a couple of beats, but that only added to the charm of their teenage feedback freakout.

Between sets, promoter Sean "Birch Heart" Borchert was busy drawing moustaches on pretty girls, while Miss Mannered kept the energy high on the 1's and 2's. Finally, The Wet Secrets hit the stage to "Also Sprach Zarathustra" and managed to keep things weird throughout their 45-minute set. Looking sharp with their trademark marching band costumes and choreographed dance moves, it comes as no surprise that the Amazonians who make up The Secrets'

horn section both moonlight with Capital City Burlesque. Media darling Trevor Anderson hammered away at the drums from a tiny island stage, and kept the kids in stitches with self-deprecating gems like "This is why you shouldn't let homosexuals play rock 'n' roll."

Accompanied by impressive handclap participation, The Secrets riffed on The Clovers' "Love Potion #9" with their own soon-to-be classic "Mr. Rimjob 1999." Yes, the air was thick with dink jokes and double entendres, perfect fare for an area of town scattered with bathhouses and 254 peepshows.

TRAVIS SARGENT

SAVED BY SMALLTOWN

420 PARTY STARLITE ROOM • APR 19

What do weed, dance-music, and Hitler have in common? Why, the annual 420 Party, of course. 500 turned up to light up in honour of der Führer's geburtstag—who would have turned 118 this past Sun-

day, OK, in truth most everyone was there to see and hear the South Rakkas Crew—but they didn't show up, either.

Not that there wasn't a good time to be had, thanks in large part to the always sociable Starlite. Used to be that multi-room parties here were the norm, but these days very few venues can reasonably host one; anyone who had the misfortune of attending the disastrous 7th Season Megaparty at the Empire Ballroom recently will understand.

Rakkas-free, an ever-capable assortment of Edmonton DJs and MCs provided the entertainment instead, even if things were sometimes samey sounding from room to room—unfortunately, the anything goes styles of "mash up" and "party rock" ironically tend to sound the same after a while—except for spinners with a sense of history like Calgary's Smalltown DJs ("Strike It Up" by Black Box—are you kidding me?). Those guys are awesome.

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MUSIC BUZZ • MUNICIPAL HAPPENINGS (652 words)

Pandas Live, Tipz Nearly Die



WILDLIFE FISH GRIWKOWSKY
LOCAL FROSTIES MEET WITH TREACHERY ON THE QEZ, WHILE HOT PANDA GETS SIGNED TO MINT RECORDS

I'm no believer in alternate timelines—a thing either happens or it doesn't. Possibilities past are moot. However, that doesn't mean we shouldn't count ourselves lucky to still have *The Frosted Tipz* among us. Headbanging guitarist Curtis Ross and singer Amy Van Keeken tell of being billiard balls on the highway last week. Ross begins:

"The visibility was starting to get quite bad, and out of nowhere I saw that all the traffic ahead of us was stopped. I started to slow down and was a little freaked out we wouldn't stop in time, but we weren't sliding out and I was still in control.

"That is, until I looked in the rear view mirror and saw an armada of speeding cars headed for us with no

ability to stop... I finally made it the left-hand shoulder where it seemed safe and came to a stop."

Van Keeken continues: "Then, a flying Honda slid into us and ricocheted into the ditch. The three of us sat, sitting ducks—no, sitting fucks—watching cars whiz by us and bash around like bumper cars... Alan announcing, "Oh my God! Here comes a semi!" And then the powerlessness, the trapped feeling, and then elation as the semi plowed by and hit nothing."

The band emerged from the incident safe and sound, thankfully.

"In all honesty, I was so fucking terrified I felt like puking," says Ross. "We have no idea yet what's the story with the White Lion—our van. She looks pretty rough."

Amy finishes it. "We drove home, snow falling in the van through the shattered window. Both guitar cases crushed, guitars fine."

After some hard work and a lot of positive PR—including noisy nods from Sonic and this very mag—*Hot Panda* is now poised to export its spaz-rock after getting signed to Mint Records of Vancouver this week. During the runup, to avoid inking a *Devil* and *Daniel Mouse* contract in blood, singer Chris Con-

nolly talked to Victoria's eternally-pushed Immaculate Machine.

"We were just trying to [see if] there was anything we should look out for, them being experienced with Mint and all," Connelly explains. "I just asked them for their thoughts on working with Mint. They gave a few little specific things, but ultimately said 'It's a good idea... welcome to the team' kind of thing."

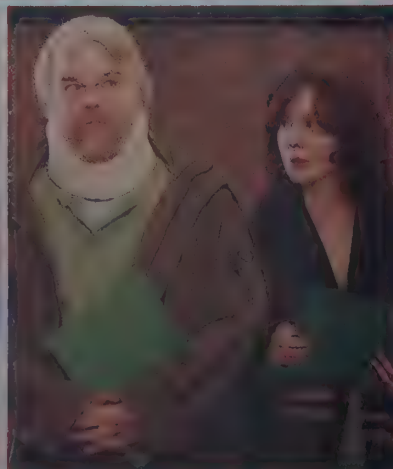
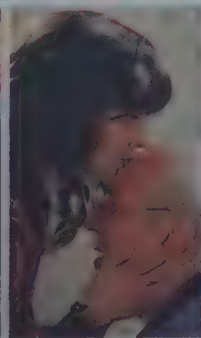
After FedExes are exchanged, HP can expect to see a spike in promotion, better gigs, and, hopefully, untold millions. They may have to hang out with Nardwuar more, though.

Capping things off on a cultural note, some Calgary friends reacted strongly to The ARTery's Wet Secrets party the other night, which featured *Field & Stream's* Nik Johnson hoisted over everyone's heads for most of the show and a subsequent degeneration into an underwear dance marathon, both genders stripping down to striped panties.

"This would, like, never happen in Calgary," I was told by a southerner looking for more to drink. I recommended a new shot: the Two-Faced Baby. In honour of the Indian-born "goddess," the shooter is one half J.D., wait five seconds, then top it off with more Jack Daniels.

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JESSICA HEINE BLUE CHAIR CAFE w/ BOB
MIKE AND ANNA SUMMERSVILLE
MIKE LYNCH HILBERT'S
SLOWBURN O'BYRNES.

JAZZ

GRAHAM LAWRENCE JULIAN'S
PIANO BAR
KALEY BIRD JEFFEREY'S CAFE
MARCO CLAVIERA FOUR ROOMS.

POP & ROCK

DEFAULT JET NIGHTCLUB
JASON GREELEY ATLANTIC TRAP AND GILL

DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

DI HARRY JAMES THE DOCKS Every Thursday.
I LOVE 80S NEW CITY/LIKWID LOUNGE w/ Dexter Nebula & Anarchy Adam Every Thursday.
HIGHER LEVEL THURSDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Drum & bass w/ DIs Dreadnought, PhatCat, MC Entile, and guests. Every Thursday.
JUNIOR BROWN RED STAR Every Thursday.
MIA FELLOW WUBDY'S w/ DJ West Coast/BabyDaddy. Every Thursday.
SALSA STYLE THURSDAYS THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE Every Thursday.
URBAN SUBSTANCE THURSDAYS GINGUR SKY LOUNGE w/ Urban Substance Sound Crew. Every Thursday.

ALTERNATIVE

THE SUMMER LAD VELVET UNDERGROUND w/ Mahogany Frog and Murder, Mutiny and the Za Za Zaz.

BLUES & ROOTS

ARIANE MAHRYKE LEMIRE CAFE LEVA
JACK DE KEYSER BLUES ON WHYTE
JOHNNY FEELGOOD HILBERT'S
MICHELLE BOURDEAU STEEPS OLD GLENORA
MISTER LUCKY BELL AND COURT.
SLOWBURN XWRECK'S PUB
STEVE MARRINER BLUE CHAIR CAFE.

JAZZ

DINO DOMINELLI JEFFEREY'S CAFE
GRAHAM LAWRENCE JULIAN'S PIANO BAR

MARCO CLAVIERA FOUR ROOMS.
ULLMAN YARBOROUGH SUITE w/ Sweet 4.

POP & ROCK

BARRY PAETZ TOUCH OF CLASS
BOOM BOOM KINGS CLIFF'S PUB.
DWAYNE CANNAN ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION.
JASON GREELEY ATLANTIC TRAP AND GILL
LINDBERG EXPRESS LB'S PUB
MUSTARD SMILE ON THE ROCKS.
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DI EDDY TOON/FLASH BUDDY'S Every Friday.
DI LOOSE CANNON IRON HORSE Every Friday.
DI SHAWNIBIS ON THE ROCKS Every Friday.
FORBIDDEN FRIDAYS EMPIRE BALLROOM Every Friday.

Friday.
FORMULA FRIDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE DJ Groovy Cury, DJ Fuzze. Every Friday.
FRIDAY NIGHT FREAK OUT NEW CITY/LIKWID LOUNGE w/ Anarchy Adam and G-Whiz. Every Friday.
JUICY DI SUDE LOUNGE Every Friday.
THE MOD CLUB HALO SOUL, R&B, indie, Brit, pop, new wave, reggae & classic. w/ DIs Blue Jay & Travy D. Every Friday.
NEON NIGHTS FLUJO Every Friday.
RED FRIDAYS THE DOCKS Military appreciation night. Every Friday.
ROCK THE GLOBE WEEKENDS GLOBE TAP BAR & GRILL Every Friday.
SEXY FRIDAY 180 DEGREES Reggae and Top 40 w/ Generation IVEXX & DJ G-Unit. Every Friday.

ALTERNATIVE

SEPTEMBER STONE STARLITE ROOM w/ Wish and Izabelle.

BLUES & ROOTS

ANDREW PAHL BAND WUNDERBAR HOFBRÄUHAUS w/ Andy Schaaf and guests.
DOUG HOVER AXIS CAFE
JACK DE KEYSER BLUES ON WHYTE
JAY ANTHONY WILKS HILBERT'S
MISTER LUCKY BELL AND COURT.
STEVE MARRINER BLUE CHAIR CAFE.

JAZZ

AMAZA FIGAROVA SEKTE YARBOROUGH SUITE.
GRAHAM LAWRENCE JULIAN'S PIANO BAR.

MARCO CLAVIERA FOUR ROOMS.

POP & ROCK

BARRY PAETZ TOUCH OF CLASS
DWAYNE CANNAN ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION.
JASON GREELEY ATLANTIC TRAP AND GILL
LINDBERG EXPRESS LB'S PUB
MUSTARD SMILE ON THE ROCKS.
NORTH COUNTRY FUNDRAISER BACKDRAUGHT.

DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

ATHLETES' NIGHT RATT w/ DJ Kiegs. Every Saturday.
DI CLAY STONEHOUSE PUB Every Saturday.
DI HOT PHILLY RED STAR Every Saturday.
DI NIC-E SUDE LOUNGE Every Saturday.
FOR THOSE WHO KNOW HALO House w/ Junior Brown, Luke Morrison, and Nestor Delano. Every Saturday.
GOMP PARTY VELVET UNDERGROUND
THE MENACE SESSIONS THE BLACK DOG w/ Miss Mannered. Every Saturday.
ON SHAP! THE TEMPLE Degree & All Out DIs. Every Saturday.
PLANET INDIGO SUGGESTIVE SATURDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Breaks, electro, house, spun by PI residents. Every Saturday.
RED CARPET SATURDAYS EMPIRE BALLROOM Every Saturday.
ROCK THE GLOBE WEEKENDS GLOBE TAP BAR & GRILL Every Saturday.
SATURDAYS SUCK NEW CITY w/ Greg Gory and Blue Jay. Every Saturday.
SUGGESTIVE SATURDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Every Saturday.
URBAN DANCE PARTY IRON HORSE w/ DJ D2. Every Saturday.

BLUES & ROOTS

CANNORS ROAD BLUES ON WHYTE
ROSETTE GUITARS BLUE CHAIR CAFE.

DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

DI RUDY ELECTRO BUDDY'S House, progressive, trip-hop. Every Sunday.
GOT TO GIVE IT UP BLACK DOG w/ DJ Red Dawn. Every Sunday.
HOUSE ARREST STOLL'S w/ Johnny Dangerous, Andy Inertia, and guests. Every Sunday.

BLUES & ROOTS

FIST FULL OF BLUES BLUES ON WHYTE.

POP & ROCK

THE CLASSICS CASINO EDMONTON.
TERA LEE CASINO YELLOWHEAD.

DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

DI RUDY ELECTRO BUDDY'S Every Monday.
ECLECTIC NONSENSE BLACK DOG w/ Confederacy w/ Dunces, Dad Rock, TJ Hookah, and Rear Admiral Saunders. Every Monday.
MUNCH ON METAL MONDAYS NEW CITY/LIKWID LOUNGE Every Monday.

BLUES & ROOTS

FIST FULL OF BLUES BLUES ON WHYTE.

POP & ROCK

THE CLASSICS CASINO EDMONTON.
TERA LEE CASINO YELLOWHEAD.

DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

DI ARROWCHASER BUDDY'S Every Tuesday.
DI HOT PHILLY RED STAR Experimental indie rock, hip hop, and electro. Every Tuesday.
COOL LATIN TUESDAYS FUNKY BUDDHA Dance Lessons. Every Tuesday.

ALTERNATIVE

TIGER ARMY STARLITE ROOM w/ The Unseen.

BLUES & ROOTS

FIST FULL OF BLUES BLUES ON WHYTE.

DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

BEATPARTY WEDNESDAYS STOLL'S Every Wednesday.
DI HARLEY THE BANK Every Wednesday.
GLITTER GULCH WEDNESDAYS BLACK DOG w/ DJ Buster Friendly. Every Wednesday.
GUEST DI RED STAR Every Wednesday.
ROCK OUT WITH YER BOX OUT NEW CITY Every Wednesday.
WED CHERRY WEDNESDAYS STOLL'S w/ Teapowith, Resident Funk, Steve Velocity, Fusion. Every Wednesday.
WILD STYLE WEDNESDAYS HIP-HOP VELVET UNDERGROUND Every Wednesday.

CONCERTS

AFRICAN GOSPEL CONCERT MAY 10, 7 PM. MAC LAB THEATRE, 9828 101A AVE. African gospel music featuring Complex-Canadian Group Mystical. Free admission.
COLOURS OF SPRING MAY 10, 7 PM. WEST END CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH, 10015-469 ST. Three choirs perform a classical choral repertoire. Tickets: \$16, \$13 student/senior + tax.
DR. PING-SHAN LIAO MAY 3, 7:30 PM. CONVOCATION HALL, U of A. Piano Solo Recital. Tickets: \$16 + tax.
EXPLORATIONS CONCERT SERIES UNTIL SEP 27, 7 PM. STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY THEATRE Presented by The Edmonton Creative Musicians' Collective. Tickets: \$15, \$10 students. Info: 496-1000.
GUNDECHA BROTHERS MAY 2, 8 PM. ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM. Drum and vocals by the Gundecha brothers. Tickets: \$20, \$15 student/senior at the door.
JAZZ AND REFLECTIONS EVERY SUN. UNTIL APR 27, 3:30-5 PM. RITCHEY UNITED CHURCH, 9624 74 AVE. APR 27, The Dave Babcock Quartet. Spring concert series. Info: 463-2442.
LINDA PERILLO APR 27, 7 PM. WINSPEAR CENTRE. Performance by soprano Linda Perillo and Pro Coro Canada. Tickets available at 428-1414 and www.winspearcentre.com.
LIVE APR 25, 7 PM. RIVER CREE CASINO, 300 LAPOLLA BLVD. Tickets: \$54.50 reserved seating, \$44.50 general admission at TM.

VENUE GUIDE

180 DEGREES RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB 10730-107 AVE. 414-0233

ARDEN THEATRE #5 ST. ANNE ST., ST. ALBERT 459-1542

THE ARTERY 9535 JASPER AVE.

ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL 704-104 ST. 432-4611

AVENUE SKATEPARK 9030-118 AVE. 477-2149

AXIS CAFE 10349 JASPER AVE. 990-0031

BACKDRAUGHT PUB 8307-99 ST. 430-9200

BAR WILD 10551 WHYTE AVE. 432-0814

BELL & COURT PUB 200-104 MAIN BLVD. SHERWOOD PARK 464-1236

BLACK DOG 10245-82 AVE. 439-1082

BLIND PIG #37 ST. ANNE ST., ST. ALBERT 418-6332

BLUE CHAIR CAFE 9624-76 AVE. 999-2861

BLUES ON WHYTE 10239-82 AVE. 439-5058

B-STREET BAR 1118-111 AVE. 464-0545

BUDDY'S 11725B JASPER AVE. 488-7736

BUD'S LOUNGE CAPILANO MALL 98 AVE. & 50 ST. 469-5588

CAFE LEVA 11053-86 AVE. 479-5382

CAFE BRITT 120 MCLEOD AVE. SPRUCE GROVE 962-2511

THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE 9551-118 AVE. 471-1580

CASTLEDOWNS PUB 16753-100 ST. 477-1111

CASINO EDMONTON 7055 ARGYLE RD. 463-9467

CASINO YELLOWHEAD 12464-153 ST. 424-9467

CENTURY CASINO 13103 FORT RD. 643-4000

CHIMMY'S 8304-144 AVE. 478-1770

CHRISTOPHER'S PARTY PUB 2021 MILLBOURNE RD. 462-6565

ESMERLEDA'S THE RAMADA ON KINGSWAY, 11834-KINGSWAY AVE. 453-7320

EXPRESSIOX CAFE 70125-107 AVE. 471-9125

FESTIVAL PLACE 100 FESTIVAL WAY. SHERWOOD PARK 464-2852

FIDDLER'S ROOST 9906-99 ST. 439-9788

FILTHY MCMASTY'S 2ND FL., 10551-82 AVE. 432-5224

FORT GAMING LOUNGE & SPORTS BAR 13403 FORT RD. 406-2916

FOUR ROOMS 1217 CITY CENTRE EAST, 426-4767

FOX PUB 10275-109 ST. 990-0680

FRESH START CAFE 484 RIVERBEND SQUARE, 433-9623

FUNKY BUDDHA 10341-82 AVE. 433-9076

GAS PUMP 10160-11 ST. 488-4843

H2O SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE 10044-82 AVE. 433-5794

HALO 10538 JASPER AVE. 423-2526

HAWKEYE'S TOO 10044-102 ST. 431-9898

HILLTOP PUB 6270-106 AVE. 490-7259

HODIGANZ PUB 10044-126 ST. 432-4168

HILBERT'S 7001-115 ST. 436-1161

IVORY CLUB & EBONY LOUNGE 2940 CALGARY TR. SOUTH. 465-6810

JEFFEREY'S CAFE & WINE BAR 9640-142 ST. 431-8890

JERKILL & HYDE PUB 10610-100 AVE. 426-5381

JET NIGHTCLUB & SPORTS LOUNGE 9221-34 AVE. 466-6552

JOHN L. HAAR THEATRE 10045-155 ST. CENTRE FOR THE ARTS. 497-4340

J.R. GRILL & BAR 3901-106 ST. 436-4403

JUGS PUB 7450-82 AVE. 465-4046

JULIAN'S PIANO BAR CHATEAU LOUIS, 1177 KINGSWAY AVE. 452-7770

KEEP IT SIMPLE (KIS) CLUB 11728-82 ST. 471-4705

NEW CITY 10081 JASPER AVE. 429-CLUB

NIKITA'S 10182-100A ST. 424-0606

NORTH GLENORA COMMUNITY LEAGUE 12535-109A AVE. 452-6610

O'BYRNES IRISH PUB 10616-82 AVE. 414-6766

ON THE ROCKS 11740 JASPER AVE. 482-4767

THE OVERDRIVE 6104-104 ST. 429-9485

THE PAWNSHOP PUB 1172, 10551-82 AVE. 432-0814

PEPPERS 320 WESTMOUNT CENTRE, 113 AVE. & 135 ST. 493-8022

PLEASANTVIEW HALL 10680-57 AVE. 424-2870

QUEEN ALEXANDRA HALL 10425 UNIVERSITY AVE. 439-9046

RAMADA SOUTH 5359 CALGARY TRAIL 434-3431

RATT THFL. SUB. U of A CAMPUS 492-7253

RENDITION 10108-149 ST. 444-1822

ROBERT TEGLER STUDENT CENTRE 7128 ADA BLVD., CONCORDIA CAMPUS 497-8491

THE ROCK PUB 4570 ST. ALBERT RD. 458-5517

ROSARIO'S PUB & KARAOKE CENTRAL 11715-108 AVE. 447-4777

ROSE & CROWN PUB 10235-101 ST. 426-7827

ROSE'S BAR & GRILL 10475-80 AVE. 439-7711

SNEAKY PETER'S 1215-118 AVE. 451-7770

STARLITE ROOM 10330-102 ST. 428-1099

ST. BASIL'S CULTURAL CENTRE 10189-71 AVE. 438-6410

STEEPS OLD GLENORA 2141 STATION PLAIN RD. 488-1505

STEEPS TEA LOUNGE COLLEGE PLAZA, 11116-82 AVE. 988-1015

STRATHEARN STEAK & PIZZA LOUNGE 9514-87 ST. 465-5478

THE STUDIO & HEAD HALL 10940-186A ST. THE TAPHOUSE 9020 MCKENNEY AVE. ST. ALBERT. 458-0860

TEDDY'S PALACE 11361 GAMING AVE. 488-0984

TOUCH OF CLASS GINGER PUB CHATEAU LOUIS, 1177 KINGSWAY AVE. 452-7770

TWILIGHT AFTERHOUS 10018-105 ST. 990-1712

URBAN LOUNGE 10544 WHYTE AVE. 437-7699

VELVET UNDERGROUND 10030-102 ST. 428-7827

WHISTLESTOP LOUNGE 12416-132 AVE. 451-5506

WINDSOR BAR AND GRILL 1172-87 AVE. 433-7800

WINSPEAR CENTRE #4 CHURCHILL SQUARE 428-1414

WUNDERBAR HOFBRÄUHAUS 8120-101 ST. 436-2286

XWRECKS 9301-50 ST. 469-8128

YARBOROUGH SUITE 10203-86 AVE. 432-0428

ZUCCHERO CAPPUCCINO BAR 8136-160 AVE. 472-7640

COMING

APR 24 — DEFAULT Jet Nightclub
APR 24 — KAVINSKY Pawn Shop
APR 30 — TIGER ARMY Starlite Room
MAY 1 — BUCK 65, CADENCE, WEAPON McDougall United Church
MAY 1 — EROL ALKAN Starlite Room
MAY 2 — ANNE MURRAY Jubilee Auditorium
MAY 2 — STARS ON ICE Rexall Place
MAY 3 — AS I LAY DYING, MISERY SIGNALS, AUGUST TERA LEE Starlite Room
MAY 6 — NDFX, NO USE FOR A NAME, AMERICAN SEER Northlands Agricore
MAY 7 — THE PROCLAIMERS Century Casino
MAY 7 — ZAKIR HUSSEIN Winspear Centre
MAY 8 — SARAH SLEAN Winspear Centre
MAY 10-11 — GOB, SICK CITY Jet Nightclub
MAY 12 — DAWN LANGSTROTTH Jubilee Auditorium
MAY 12 — MEGADETH, IN FLAMES, CHILDREN OF BODOM, JOB FOR A COWBOY, HIGH ON FIRE Shaw Conference Centre
MAY 12 — TOKYO POLICE CLUB Starlite Room
MAY 13 — DESTROYER, DEVON WILLIAMS Starlite Room
MAY 13-14 — CHARLEY PRIDE Jubilee Auditorium
MAY 14 — MELANIE C Starlite Room
MAY 16 — CAKE Edmonton Event Centre
MAY 16 — NIGHTWISH, SONIC SYNDICATE Starlite Room
MAY 18 — CLUMSY LOVERS Velvet Underground
MAY 18 — KIDS IN THE HALL Jubilee Auditorium
MAY 19 — GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS Winspear Centre
MAY 20 — DIANA ROSS Jubilee Auditorium
MAY 20 — DOC WALKER Winspear Centre
MAY 20 — LADYTRON, QATAROCK Starlite Room
MAY 22 — LE MYSTERE DES VOIX BULGARES McDougall United Church
MAY 22 — THE MARS VOLTA Edmonton Event Centre
MAY 23 — COHEED AND CAMBRIA Edmonton Event Centre
MAY 24 — ARCH ENEMY Starlite Room
MAY 24 — THE HIVES Edmonton Event Centre
MAY 24-25 — NEVERTHELESS, THOUSAND FOOT CRUTCH Northlands
MAY 25 — TAJ MAHAL, THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA Winspear Centre
MAY 26 — POISON THE WELL, KILLSWITCH ENGAGE, THOROWDOWN Edmonton Event Centre
MAY 27 — M.I.A. Edmonton Event Centre
MAY 27 — RUSH Rexall Place
MAY 31 — CITY AND COLOUR, SLEEPERCAZ Jubilee Auditorium
MAY 29 — JUSTIN RUTLEDGE, KATHLEEN EDWARDS Starlite Room
MAY 31 — KANYE WEST, RIHANNA, LUPE FIASCO, N*E*R*D Rexall Place
JUN 3 — THE BIRTHDAY MASSACRE, MINDLESS SELF INDULGENCE, PANK SHARK REAL ZOMBIE Starlite Room
JUN 3 — TOM JONES Jubilee Auditorium
JUN 7 — ISLANDS Starlite Room
JUN 8 — IRON MAIDEN Rexall Place
JUN 10 — K.D. LANG Jubilee Auditorium
JUN 10 — THE JEALOUS GIRLFRIENDS, SEA WOLF Velvet Underground
JUN 13 — PAUL BRANDT Shaw Conference Centre
JUN 15 — CRAIG PERGUISON Winspear Centre
JUN 19-20 — CIRQUE DU SOLEIL, "SALTIMBANCO" Rexall Place

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HIGHLIGHT • THURSDAY NIGHT HEROES



Oh Yeah, And They're Opening For Default (But Tupelo Honey are still our boys. PHOTO SUPPLIED

Tupelo Honey • Apr 24 • JET Nightclub

You gotta give these angsty, radio-friendly kids a little cred: not too many E-town bands have "opening for Bon Jovi" on their list of career highlights. Matt Landry can actually wail, you know. Their new album, *Machines and Robots*, may surprise all you cynical indie-rock snobs. Bring it on, Sonic. Overplay 'em. We dare you.

LIVE FROM THE MUSEUM: THE U-ZZ REVUE EVERY WED. APR 30-JUN 4, MUSEUM CAFE, ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM Featuring a mix of new artists, age 22 and under, and professionals conducting "Master Jam" sessions. Tickets: \$10 at the museum or KJWA studio.
MCKEEVER'S CROSSING MAY 9, 7 PM, ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM CD release with the Nicky Tams. Tickets: \$10 all TIX.
MCDUGALL UNITED CHURCH Free admission, bring a bag lunch. Tea and coffee available. Info: 468-4964.
NIGHT OF ARTISTS APR 26, 1 PM, TRANSALTA ARTS BARN Afternoon Discovery series with local artists. Tickets: \$10 at the door.

OF FLOWERS AND NATURE MAY 3, 8 PM, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 10025-105 ST. Featuring Britters "Flower Songs" and Finzi's "Seven Poems of Robert Bridges". Tickets: \$20, \$15 student/senior at the door.
POETRY IN MUSIC MAY 10, 8 PM, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 10031-109 ST. Choral music inspired by poetry, featuring the KJA Camera Singers. Tickets: \$15, \$10 student/senior at TIX.
THE POET IN MELODY APR 27, 3 PM, ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH, 10035-103 ST. Organ concert with Christopher Dawes and Daniel Rubinoff on saxophone. Tickets: \$15 at TIX or 454-3882.
SALUTE TO THE PROMS MAY 9, 7:30 PM, CONVOCATION HALL. British-style brass band the Mill Creek Collier Band

performs their annual "Proms" concert. Tickets: \$17, \$13 student/senior at TIX.
SAMARABALOUF APR 30, 7:30 PM, ARDEN THEATRE String trio. Tickets: \$30 at the Arden Box Office or TIX.
SING A SONG OF SPRING MAY 4, 3 PM, MCDUGALL UNITED CHURCH Cantillon Choirs, primary choir and children's choir. Tickets: \$15, \$12 student/senior at 420-1751.
SPRING T.I.M.E. MAY 3, 7 PM, EDMONTON MORAVIAN CHURCH, 9540-83 AVE. Performances by two vocal jazz groups FORM and 'Nul Sed. Info: 984-5666.
TROADER ORCHESTRA APR 26, 7 PM, COAST TERRACE INN Dinner and concert. Tickets: \$65 all TIX.
ZAKIR HUSSAIN MAY 7, 8 PM, WINSPEAR CENTRE Zakir Hussain and the "Masters of Percussion" perform classical Indian songs. Tickets: \$50, \$43 student/senior at Winspear Centre Box Office.

OPEN STAGE

THURSDAY
180 DEGREES 9 pm. Hip-hop open mic hosted by DJ Dirty Needz.
BACKDRAUGHT 9 pm. Everyone welcome.
CHUSTERS 9 pm-1 am. Hosted by The Wonitha Thomas Band.
EDDIE SHORTS 9 pm.
J.R. GRILL & BAR 9 pm-1 am. Hosted by The Shameless Plugs. All styles welcome, B.Y.O.D. instrument, drums & PA provided.
NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR 8 pm. Bring your own instruments, poetry, etc.
NORTH GLENORA COMMUNITY LEAGUE 7 pm. Hosted by the Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Association. Info: Ray, 457-947.
ZUCCHERO 7:30 pm.
SATURDAY
BLUES ON WHYTE 4-8:30 pm. Afternoon jam.
THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE 7-10 pm. Music and poetry open mic.
COAST TO COAST 9 pm-2 am. w/ Troy P Wright.
EXPRESSIONZ CAFE 1ST SAT EVERY MONTH 1-5 pm. Hosted by Karyn Stirling. Info: www.expressionzcafe.com.
MORANGO'S TEA CAFE 7-10 pm. Hosted by Tommy. Info: www.morangostekcafe.com.
THE NEW TAPHOUSE 3-7 pm. Molson open stage, hosted by Carmen Cook.
STRATHEARN PUB 2ND SAT EVERY MONTH 5-9 pm. Hosted by The Royal Tease, followed by karaoke.
XWRECKS 7 pm.
SUNDAY
DUSTERS 9 pm. Hosted by The Mary Thomas Band.
EDDIE SHORTS 9 pm. Hosted by Rob Taylor, instruments

and gear provided.
HOOLOGANZ PUB Afternoon jam hosted by Rock'n Roll Kenny.
HULBERTS 7-10 pm. Hosted by Rhea March. Info: www.hulberts.ca.
NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL 3-6 pm. Hosted by Willie James & Crowdad.
O'BRYNE'S IRISH PUB 9 pm. Hosted by Joe Bird.
THE OVERDRIVE 1:30-5 pm. "Anything Goes" afternoon acoustic jam hosted by The Shufflebound.
TEDDY'S LOUNGE & EATERY 9-30 pm.
YESTERDAYS PUB 2 pm-6 pm. Hosted by the Killer Cowboys.

MONDAY
LB'S PUB 9 pm-12:30 am. Hosted by Shaved Posse: Ken, Fred, Gordie, and Matt.
PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7 pm. Acoustic fiddle jam hosted by Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Society. Info: Willy, 474-5270.
THE IVORY CLUB 8 pm. Hosted by Marty Vinko.
ROSE BOWL/ROUGE LOUNGE 9 pm-12 am. w/ Mike McDonald and Sherry-Lee Wisor.

TUESDAY
THE DRUID 9 pm. Hosted by Chris Wynters.
SIDELINERS PUB 8 pm. All Star Jam. Hosted by Alicia Tait and Ricky Siderak.
THE TAPHOUSE 8:30 pm-1 am. Moosehead Jam, hosted by Mark Ammar, Dale Collins, and Noel Mackenzie.

WEDNESDAY
CAFE BRITT 7-9 pm. Hosted by Paul LePage.
THE ROCK PUB Acoustic night.
EDDIE SHORTS Open jam, all gear provided.
HOOLOGANZ PUB 7:30 pm. Hosted by Rock'n Roll Kenny.
LITTLE FLOWER OPEN STAGE 8 pm. Hosted by Brian Gregg. Info: www.littleflower.ca or 429-3624.
THE NEW TAPHOUSE 9 pm. Hosted by Danny Floyd.
PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7:30 pm. Bluegrass jam hosted by Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society.
STEEPS TEA LOUNGE Acoustic open mic every Wed. Email Jessie at jllibert@gmail.com by Mondays to book a spot that week.

KARAOKE

B-STREET BAR Wed-Sun w/ Brad Scott.
BLIND PIG Wed & Fri w/ Sherry-Lee Wisor.
B'S LOUNGE Fri & Sat, 9 pm-1:30 am w/ Mr. Entertainment.
CHIMMY'S Thu, Fri, Sat 9:30 pm-1:30 am w/ Jimmy.
CHRISTOPHER'S PUB Tue, 9 pm w/ Sonja/ProSound.

CROWN & ANCHOR PUB Thu, 10:30 pm.
CLIFF'S PUB & PANTRY Sat & Sun w/ Krista, Liquid Entertainment.
DOYLE'S PUB Fri, 10 pm-2 am w/ Cathy, Sat, 10 pm-2 am w/ Ewan.
THE DRUID Wed, 9 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment.
DUSTER'S PUB Sat.
D.W.'S PUB & GRILL Fri, 9-1 am. Hosted by Mr. Entertainment.
ECCO PUB Mon, 9 pm-1 am w/ Sonja/ProSound Productions.
ELEMENT LOUNGE Wed, 9 pm.
FORT GAMING LOUNGE & SPORTS BAR Fri, 9 pm-1 am w/ Angel How.
FOX PUB Tue, 9 pm.
FUNKY BUDDHA Sun, 9:30 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment.

GAS PUMP Tue, 9:30-1:30 am w/ Gord's Live Jukebox.
100 SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE Tue, Thu, Sat & Sun.
HAWKEYES TOO Fri, 8 pm w/ Hot Karaoke Productions.
HILLTOP PUB Thu, 9:30 pm.
HOOLOGANZ PUB Thu & Fri w/ Krista, Liquid Entertainment.
JUGS PUB Sat, 9 pm.
KEEPS IT SIMPLE (KIS) CLUB Tue & Sun, 6-10 pm. Except 2nd Tue of the month.
KNIGHTS PUB SOUTH Tues-Sat, 9 pm-2 am. Sun 9 pm-1 am w/ Gord's Live Jukebox.
LB'S PUB Tue, 9:30 pm-1:30 am w/ The Karacknouts.
THE LOCKER ROOM PUB Mon, 9 pm-1 am w/ Horn.
METRO BILLIARDS Tue, 10 pm-2 am w/ Lounge Lizard Entertainment.
MOJO'S Fri, 9:30 pm w/ Sonja/ProSound Productions.
MONA LISA PUB Thu-Sat, 9:30 pm-2 am, Sat w/ Cathy.
NIKITA'S Tue & Thu, 7 pm-midnight w/ Shelley.
ON THE ROCKS Mon, 9:30 pm. Drink the Bar Dry Karaoke w/ Scott Parsons. Mr. Entertainment.
OVERDRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB & GRILL Sat, 9 pm w/ Jennie Joy.
RAMADA SOUTH Thu, 8 pm Colin & Ed Music Trivia. Sun, 8 pm-midnight w/ Colin & Ed. Almost Famous.
RATT LIES 9 pm. Colin & Ed Music Trivia. Wed, 8 pm w/ Colin. Almost Famous.
ROSARIO'S PUB & KARAOKE CENTRAL Daily, 9 pm.
ROSIE'S BAR & GRILL Thu-Sat, 9:30 pm-1:30 am.
ROUGE LOUNGE Mon, 8:30 pm w/ Mike McDonald and Sherry-Lee Wisor.
SILVER MARTINI Every 2nd Sat, 9 pm-1 am w/ ProSound Productions.
TRANSIT HOTEL Thurs, 7:30-11:30 pm w/ ProSound Productions.
X-WRECKS LOUNGE Wed, 7:30-11:30 pm w/ Sonja/ProSound.



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-Christina Picot, *ELUSATODAY*

from the director of *The Station Agent* - from the producer of *Sideways*

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PRINCESS

“RICHARD JENKINS’ LOOKS SO EPITOMIZE THE DULL, MIDDLE-AGED OFFICE DRONE THAT YOU CAN HARDLY BELIEVE HE EVER WENT INTO A CRAZY PROFESSION LIKE ACTING IN THE FIRST PLACE.

MOVIE REVIEW • RICHARD JENKINS SUPERSTAR • BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 681 words

Dearly Deported

A REPRESSED COLLEGE PROF BEFRIENDS AN ILLEGAL SYRIAN IMMIGRANT, DEFIES CLICHÉS, IN *THE VISITOR*

THE VISITOR

Directed by Tom McCarthy. Starring Richard Jenkins, Haaz Sleiman, Danai Gurira, Hiam Abbass. Opens Fri, Apr 25.

★★★★☆

Sometimes I think Anne Tyler is the greatest unacknowledged influence on the last two decades of American indie cinema—or at least that subset of indie cinema that tends to dominate Sundance. I’m thinking of those small-scale character comedy-dramas in which a repressed main character—sad, lonely, getting older, seemingly set in his or her ways—learns to embrace life again thanks to a chance encounter with a dynamic, “exotic” new friend or lover.

That’s the template that has served Tyler well in novel after novel; maybe she didn’t necessarily invent it, but in books like *Dinner at the Home-sick Restaurant* and *The Accidental Tourist*, she definitely brought the genre to a new level of artistic refinement. And no Indiewood inheritor of the Tyler tradition, from *Box of Moonlight* to *Shall We Dance?* to *Punch-Drunk Love* to *Garden State* to, well, *The Accidental Tourist*, has ever quite matched Tyler’s unique ability to show a character coming out of his or her shell without ever quite dispelling the melancholy mood that the story started out with.

That is, not until *The Visitor*, writer/director Tom McCarthy’s beautifully executed followup to his 2003 debut *The Station Agent*. Richard Jenkins—that doleful character actor from *Six Feet Under* and *Flirting With Disaster* with the receding hairline and dour expres-

sion, whose looks so epitomize the dull, middle-aged office drone that you can hardly believe he ever went into a crazy profession like acting in the first place—plays Walter Vale, an economics professor whose life is on permanent autopilot, teaching the same syllabus year after year, eating the same food, and probably going to bed at the same time and having the same dreamless sleep.

Walter lives in Connecticut, but he maintains an apartment in New York. While in town to deliver a paper at a globalization conference, he enters that apartment, only to discover a young couple squatting there—a Syrian musician named Tarek (Haaz Sleiman) and his Senegalese wife Zainab (Danai Gurira). The two of them are obviously harmless, and Walter (who doesn’t have the heart to throw them out into the street and is likely starved for company besides) lets them stay.

He even strikes up a friendship with Tarek, who teaches Walter to play the *djembe* and even invites him to join an informal drum circle in Central Park. Later, when Tarek—who is in the country illegally—is arrested and faces deportation, Walter finds himself fighting Tarek’s cause with unaccustomed passion, hiring him a lawyer and making the long journey to Queens to visit him in the depressing detention centre in which he’s being held.

I know how terrible that plot summary makes this movie sound—how sentimental, how familiar and tedious. “Too bad the Arab guy gets deported, but at least his repressed white friend learned to live again!” I know, I know: what kind of moral is that?

But McCarthy’s handling of this material (and the performances by Jenkins, Sleiman and Hiam Ab-



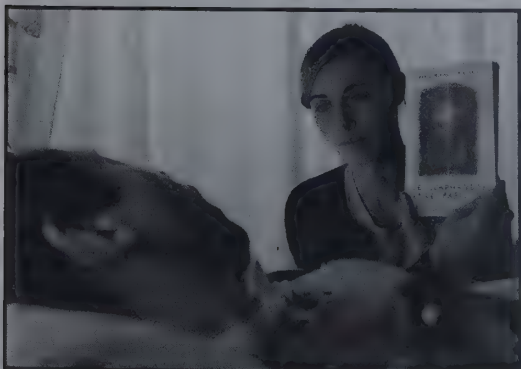
Give The Drummer Some | Richard Jenkins gets funky on the *djembe* with Haaz Sleiman in *The Visitor*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

bass, who makes a late but pivotal entrance into the story as Tarek’s mother Mouna) are so subtle and sharply observed that *The Visitor* resists simplistic readings. It’s not a movie about tired “we are all brothers” themes; it’s a movie about these specific people, who keep revealing surprising aspects of their humanity through small but significant gestures: the way Walter discreetly

turns his head away when he visits Tarek and holds letters from Zainab up to the glass partition for him to read; or the empathetic way Mouna reacts to the news that the pianist on the classical CD that Walter loves to listen to is his late wife.

I’ve read some reviews of this film that have found its political messages too obvious, or its portrayal of its foreign characters too simplistic.

I disagree; it all seemed remarkably graceful to me. There’s a scene early in the film where Walter is taking piano lessons and being admonished by his teacher to “let the train through”—in other words, to arch his fingers higher, as if to form a train tunnel. McCarthy plays a familiar melody in *The Visitor*, but he lifts his fingers high enough to let the train through.



Book Of Blinks | Anne Cosgrove shows Mathieu Amalric the book he “wrote” using just his left eyelid in *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

DVD DICTATOR • THE MOVIES YOU MUST BUY THIS TUESDAY

FRENCH!

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly

CAST | Mathieu Amalric, Emmanuelle Seigner, Marie-Josée Croze, Max von Sydow

The Dictator was kind of disappointed when Julian Schnabel didn’t win Best Director at this year’s Oscars—it would have been absolutely awesome to see someone accept an Oscar in their pyjamas for the first time since Barbra Streisand in 1968. All levity aside, though, this adaptation of former *Elle* editor Jean-Dominique Bauby’s remarkable memoir—“written” after a medical catastrophe left him completely paralyzed except for his left eyelid—is a sly, beautiful, genuinely life-affirming experience.

ALSO FRENCH!

The Red Balloon

CAST | Pascal Lamorisse, a balloon

You know that *Mr. Show* sketch where David Cross spends the day hanging out with a red balloon? The premise isn’t as random as it seemed—it’s a takeoff of this much-loved 1956 short film by Albert Lamorisse in which a seemingly sentient balloon befriends a Parisian schoolboy, only to run afoul of a gang of street thugs, and it remains the definitive examination of the prejudice still facing boy/balloon relationships around the world. The film is now out on DVD, and should get you in the proper mood for Hou Hsiao-Hsien’s upcoming *Flight of the Red Balloon*.

GUATEMALAN!

The Guatemalan Handshake

CAST | Will Oldham, Cory McAbee, Rich Schreiber, Katy Haywood

The mysterious disappearance of a hapless small-town nobody (musician Will Oldham) during a massive power outage is the launching-off point for a series of strange, often magical vignettes in this low-budget gem from writer/director Todd Rohal, a grand prize winner at Slamdance and Torino. The film is the third release from minuscule Benten Films, the only DVD distribution company in North America curated by film critics—check out their website at www.bentenfilms.com for more information.

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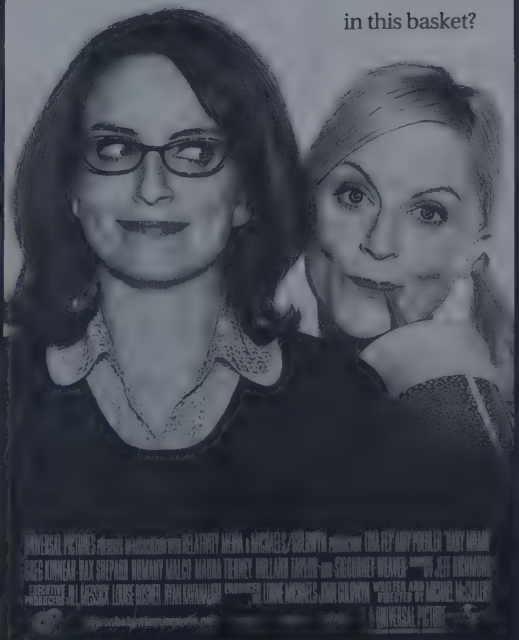
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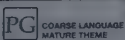
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MOVIE REVIEW • COB-UMENTARY • BY SCOTT LINGLEY | 566 words

Maize Of Bureaucracy



Kernel Lieutenants | Gentleman farmers Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis get a crash course in agricultural subsidies in *King Corn*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

**YOU COULDN'T ASK FOR A
MORE GENIAL EXPOSÉ ABOUT
THE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF
U.S. FARMS THAN KING CORN**

KING CORN

Directed by Aaron Wolff, Ian Cheney, and Curt Ellis. Apr
27-May 1, Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel).

★★★★☆

King Corn, a film by American first-time documentarians Aaron Wolff, Ian Cheney, and Curt Ellis, is fashioned from simple means—it seems like it could be mostly the work of three buddies—only Cheney and Ellis are on camera—who, upon discovering from analysis of their hair that most of the carbon in their bodies comes from corn, decide to move to Iowa and grow an acre of corn.

Cheney and Ellis, though they met in Boston, can trace their roots to the same tiny cornpatch name of Greene, Iowa (pop. 1,015). With the help of some local farmers and what's left of their elderly closest relatives, the two young men plant a field of corn and take the occasion to explore to the current meaning of corn as commodity and stealth dietary staple. Corn turns up in all manner of processed foods, most pervasively as high-fructose corn syrup, a nutrition-averse source of many of the sweet extra calories in the North American diet.

As Cheney and Ellis discover, the corn they're growing isn't the kind you slather butter on and chomp into over a paper plate—their corn has to be processed to be edible. They also find out that, thanks to radical changes to U.S. agriculture policy in the early 1970s—changes that practically mandated the industrialization of farming to produce as much corn as possible—corn costs more to grow than you can earn by selling it, which is why the U.S. government kicks in on every bushel grown to cover the difference, and then some. Before the boys have planted so much as a kernel, their acre earns them \$28 in federal subsidy. Most of the neighbouring farms have conglomerated into industrial operations covering thousands and thousands of acres.

The movie covers serious ground in 90 minutes, but in a low-key, unhurried way that never feels contrived or preachy. Cheney and Ellis seem genuinely interested in finding out about the place their great-grandfathers made home, as well as this whole corn-growing business. They're genial but unobtrusive screen presences and their willing curiosity about the various aspects of the corn biz are easy to

go along with. They hang with the locals. They try to make stovetop high-fructose corn syrup, which calls for a batch of caustic chemicals. They go to an agricultural research facility to observe cows' digestive systems—they even stick their hands into a cow's stomach. They're game but easygoing. Plus, they seem like genuinely nice guys, even putting on their best suits to go visit former U.S. secretary of agriculture Earl

**CORN TURNS UP IN ALL
MANNER OF PROCESSED
FOOD, MOST Pervasively AS
HIGH-FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP,
THE SOURCE OF MANY OF THE
SWEET EXTRA CALORIES IN
THE NORTH AMERICAN DIET.**

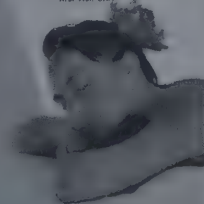
"Rusty" Butz, the man behind corn's ascendancy as commodity crop and ingredient, in his nursing home.

That sense of respect for the people who took the time to help them make their movie pervades *King Corn* and keeps it from ever seeming like a harangue about how the industrialization of farming has changed the way everyone eats. The lovely digital cinematography, which exploits the sprawling pancake of the Iowa cornbelt for majesty and harshness, is as lulling as the simple acoustic-country score.

At the same time, it painlessly instills you with a new sense of wariness about food that's mass-produced with the least expensive products for maximum profitability. Delicious as that sounds, it may be one of the reasons you're likely to not live as long as your parents' generation. At least *King Corn* breaks the news gently.

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MOVIE REVIEW • STONER SAFARI • BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 620 words

I'm Going To Gitmo, Sucka



Where's Michael Winterbottom When You Need Him? | John Cho and Kal Penn wind up behind bars, but not for long, in Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay. PHOTO SUPPLIED

HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY IS A PRO-DUBYA COMEDY. NO, WE'RE NOT HIGH

HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY
Directed by Jon Hurwitz and Hayden Schlossberg. Starring John Cho, Kal Penn, Rob Corddry. Opens Fri, Apr 25.
★★★★

Who would have imagined that movie which begins with its heroes getting racially profiled at an airport, tossed into prison at Guantánamo

Bay, threatened with rape at gunpoint by American soldiers (a practice that is depicted as so routine there's even a slang term for it), and questioned by a Homeland Security officer who literally wipes his ass with the Bill of Rights, would also turn out to contain the most sympathetic portrayal of George W. Bush of any film in the last eight years?

Welcome to the topsy-turvy politics of *Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay*, a sequel to 2003's stoner cult movie *Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle*. It's five years later, but the action in this film picks up right where the previous one left off, with the marijuana smoke barely even given time to dissipate. Korean-American Harold (John Cho) has decided to travel to Amsterdam in hopes of hooking up with Maria (Paula Garcés), the pretty neighbour he finally worked up the nerve to kiss at the end of the first movie, before some hypothetical good-looking Dutchman can waltz in and steal her affections; for Indian-American Kumar (Kal Penn), the prospect of legal weed is enough to make him

want to tag along. But when a fellow passenger mistakes the sinister-looking "smokeless bong" Kumar has sneaked onto the plane for a bomb, it's off to Gitmo for our luckless heroes.

As the title implies, they're not in there for long: federal prison is merely the first stop in a long, surreal journey that stretches from Cuba to the room in George Bush's ranch where he goes to put his feet up, smoke a little weed, and hide out from Dick Cheney ("That guy scares the shit out of me," he mutters guiltily.) The climactic scene, in which Bush shares some of his stash with Harold and Kumar, fugitives from his own government, is the movie's comic masterstroke: like Kumar, Dubya is just an easygoing underachiever sick of having done everything in his life just to make his dad happy.

When Harold tells Bush that he's not sure he trusts his government anymore after everything that's happened to him, Bush gets the most sensible line in the entire movie: "Hell, I don't trust the government!"

he says "You don't have to trust your government to be a patriot. You just have to trust your country."

Jon Hurwitz and Hayden Schlossberg, who wrote and directed the film, trust their country too. They realize that it's filled with plenty of right-wing douchbags and racist seniors and inbred Klansmen—and of course, there's always that drugged-up sex maniac Neil Patrick Harris to watch out for—but the map is also dotted with helpful way stations where Harold and Kumar can be sure to find all the food, clothing, and naked women they need. Hayden and Schlossberg love to upend cultural clichés—in fact, their main comic strategy is to introduce a racial or regional stereotype and then leave

you guessing whether it will turn out to hold true. A scary, muscular black man turns out to be an orthodontist, the shack of a deer-hunting redneck turns out to look like a Manhattan penthouse inside, and that Republican bride-to-be turns out to be a pot-smoking superfreak at heart.

For all its raunchy humour (which is often more off-putting than funny) and all the unnecessary reprises of gags from the first movie (including a return visit from the Giant Bag of Weed), *Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay* is an unusually inclusive movie. In this contentious election season, it's maybe the only comedy you can imagine Barack Obama and George W. Bush laughing at together.

MOVIE REVIEW • TOKEN CANADIAN MOVIE • BY MATT HUBERT | 521 words

You Do The Math

IN EMOTIONAL ARITHMETIC, A POWERHOUSE CAST PLUS A CLUMSY SCRIPT EQUALS A HIGH-MINDED BORE

EMOTIONAL ARITHMETIC
Directed by Paolo Barzman. Starring Susan Sarandon, Gabriel Byrne, Christopher Plummer, Max von Sydow. Opens Fri, Apr 25.
★★★☆☆

I have an aversion to films about the Holocaust. Does that make me a terrible person?

I don't think so. Insensitive, maybe? Exactly the opposite, I think.

The problem facing any film treatment of this period in history, as I see it, is that it has to perform a tricky balancing act: it's got to tell the story of one person's terrifying experience (which few of us can really relate to), but it's also got to drive at a greater, even more horrifying social reality (which neither you nor I will likely really understand). I'm not saying it's a futile effort, but they have to be judiciously shot, well-written, and downright superbly acted. Trapeze artists who can pull off all three of those stunts are few and far between.

With *Emotional Arithmetic*, director Paolo Barzman fulfills two of those requirements. He's got an absolutely loaded cast and his cinematographer is Luc Montpeller (who also shot Sarah Polley's *Away From*



One Plus One Equals Two | Max von Sydow and Susan Sarandon's combined acting prowess isn't enough to make *Emotional Arithmetic* watchable. PHOTO SUPPLIED

Her). But as for the script... well, two out of three isn't enough.

Emotional Arithmetic (based on Matt Cohen's novel of the same name) tells the story of three friends reunited some 40 years after their internment at Drancy, a Nazi "way-station" outside of Paris for Jews on their way to death camps. Melanie Winters (Susan Sarandon) receives a letter from Jakob Bronski (Max von Sydow), who was her mentor and guardian during the many months in the detention camp, and she invites him to her home in Quebec's Eastern River region.

Now middle-aged and living with her much older husband David (Christopher Plummer), Melanie is shocked to find that Jakob has brought Michael (Gabriel Byrne), her childhood friend from the camp, along with him. It doesn't take Melanie and Michael long to rekindle their first love, and soon the idyllic weekend turns into an outpouring of memories, emotional confusion, and

bitterness.

It's splendid to watch a cast this talented throw themselves at a subject this deeply affecting. Sarandon inflects her character with the mental and physical frailty of a woman wrangling with an unloving husband and a traumatic past, while Plummer and Von Sydow, despite their advanced age, have such regal screen presences and they fill each of their scenes together with such tension that the screen practically seems ready to jump off the damn wall.

But they're done in by Jefferson Lewis' underwritten, mercilessly dull script, which undermines the potential complexity of these characters at every turn: Byrne is stuck, uncharacteristically, with a weak character; Von Sydow doesn't get nearly enough to say; and Melanie, who is supposed to be torn between healing and moving forward or remaining shackled to her past, has her complex struggle so dumbed down that it registers more as neurotic craziness.

At one point, Plummer's character does us the favour of putting the film's theme into words: how are we allowed to suffer, he asks, if we know that someone else's pain will always be greater? Now, I'm the kind of viewer who thinks these questions can't be answered, but come on, Paolo Barzman: at least give me a fighting chance at figuring them out.

THE #1 MOVIE IN CANADA!

"DAZZLING!"
A.O. Scott, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"THE ACTION IS FASTER THAN A BLACK-BELT'S FIST!"
Rick Bentley, VANCOUVER PROVINCE

"FORBIDDEN KINGDOM IS PURE ENTERTAINMENT!"
Sean Axmaker, SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

"PLENTY OF EYE-POPPING MOMENTS!"
Rafea Guzman, NEWSDAY

"EXHILARATING!"
Sean Axmaker, SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

"GREAT FUN!"
David Edelstein, NEW YORK MAGAZINE

JACKIE CHAN **BRUCE LEE**

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

THE BATTLE FOR ETERNITY IS THE BATTLE OF A LIFETIME.

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Broken Hearts And Comic Nudity



It's Not Stalking, It's Just An Unfortunate Coincidence | Even in Hawaii, Jason Segel can't escape his ex-girlfriend in *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

JASON SEGEL PLUMBS NEW DEPTHS OF ROMANTIC PATHOS IN *FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL*

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL
Directed by Nicholas Stoller. Starring Jason Segel, Kristen Bell, Mila Kunis, Russell Brand. Now playing.
★★★★☆

As Alfred Lord Tennyson once wrote, "Breaking up is hard to do." [Hmmm... This sounds wrong to me, but I don't have time to look it up.

Screw it: I'll let it slide. —Ed.] Well, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, the latest entry from Team Apatow (the guys who, as their trailers keep reminding you, brought you *Superbad*, *The 40 Year-Old Virgin*, and *Knocked Up*) proves the adage true, at the same time disproving that whole thing about comedy being hard. Superproducer Judd Apatow and his gang of up-and-coming comedic talent make it look pretty damned easy.

This time it's *Freaks and Geeks*/Undeclared alumnus Jason Segel's

turn in the spotlight. As the writer and star of *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, Segel lays it all out for every-

SEGEL'S (SOON-TO-BE-CLASSIC) NAKED BREAKUP SCENE IS HILARIOUS WHILE ALSO BEING SCARILY RELATABLE. IN FACT, MOST OF PETER'S POST-DUMP DECLINE REMINDED ME OF MY OWN BIG HURT—THE ONE THAT REALLY STUCK IT IN AND BROKE IT OFF.

one to see, figuratively and literally, and the results are anything but forgettable.

After getting his heart handed to

him courtesy of an out-of-nowhere breakup, struggling musician Peter Bretter (Segel), starts scrambling for anything to heal his broken heart. Listening to the same song over and over, destructive (and less-than-believable) one-night-stand revenge-sex marathons—nothing seems to take the sting off the split. The fact that his ex is Hollywood "it" girl Sarah Marshall (Kristen Bell), star of her own *CSI*-like TV show, doesn't help matters at all. It seems that the only escape from heartache is... well, escape—in Peter's case, to the sun-soaked beaches of Hawaii.

Sure, he's going to the same resort Sarah just happens to endorse (and frequent), and the fact that she's there right now with her current paramour, the nonsensically tattooed British rock star Aldous Snow (Russell Brand), doesn't make him a stalker—just a little creepy.

Like Peter, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* sometimes comes on a little strong, its determination to win you over occasionally bordering on the edge of desperate (especially dur-

schmaltz is counteracted by heavy doses of screwball goofiness that should comfort even the most pathetic of jilted lovers.

The cast is great. Segel raises hang-dog wistfulness to a new artform and Mila Kunis is a refreshingly sunny presence as Rachel, the sympathetic hotel clerk who might hold the key to healing Peter's pain.

There are also the obligatory cameos from Apatow-ites Jonah Hill and Paul Rudd, but Russell Brand's vacant rock god is the real scene-stealer here—just imagine the love child of Mahatma Gandhi and James Blunt.

All in all, it's a funny bit of crude but good-hearted fluff. Segel's (soon-to-be-classic) naked breakup scene is hilarious while also being scarily relatable. In fact, most of Peter's post-dump decline reminded me of my own Big Hurt—the one that really stuck it in and broke it off. (I still can't hear "Nothing Compares 2 U" without misting up a little bit.)

But now that *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* helped me see that the nor-

ing a lengthy performance of Peter's *Dracula*-inspired rock opera featuring an all-puppet cast that I'm still not too sure about). But at least the

mal reaction to the sight of a naked man crying is hysterical laughter. I guess I don't have to feel quite so alone anymore.

TELEVISION • TIMESHIFTING BANDITS | 663 words

The Enemy Of My Enemy...



TELEPROMPTER NICOLA SIMPSON KHULLAR GLOBAL AND CTV TEAM UP TO TAKE ON THE CRTC... BUT ARE THEY FIGHTING A LARGER LOSING BATTLE?

We all know the saying that politics makes strange bedfellows, but that seems to be particularly true in Canadian broadcasting.

Last week Global chairman Leonard Asper teamed up with CTV head honcho Ivan Fecan to take on the CRTC in the latest round of cable hearings.

Their complaint? They want the Commission to turn down cable requests to bypass Cancon requirements, and to compel those cable operators to pay a Cancon-supporting

fee for the right to use the networks' programming.

Frustrated with cable companies hopping over the rules, Asper likened Canadian network broadcasters to frogs in a pot of slowly boiling water.

Mmmmm. Frog legs... Tastes like chicken...

Prince Asper took potshots at Bell ExpressVu, bitching about its favouritism for American cable feeds. "They don't have room for Montreal local TV, but they have room for porn," Asper reminded the CRTC. Porn? In Montreal? Zut alors!

Asper and Fecan also moaned about cablers' offers of timeshifting channels, which they claim robs them of \$93 million in advertising revenue. Of course, they may be forgetting that nobody actually watches the commercials anymore; they just zap through them on their PVR.

Timeshifting does seriously cut into ad revenue for networks such as CTV who offer American shows in simultaneous substitution, which Fe-

can threatened "is a work-around to protect the exclusive rights we have purchased—it's not a gift." In other words, if the CRTC doesn't start building a dam to prevent revenue spillage, Canadian networks may take popular American programs off the air.

Talk about throwing the baby out with the bathwater. Are traditional networks fighting a losing battle? I have to wonder if Asper and Fecan are really sincere about this, or if they're just the first rats getting ready to jump ship (to completely mix up my metaphors).

Would Canadian networks be so bitchy about losing revenue to programming from across the pond rather than across the 49th? Last week the nominees for the Banff Television Festival (being held in, uh, Banff, from June 8-11) showed that the Brits are ahead in the race for quality television, with 35 nominations to the Yanks' 22. The only American show nominated on the Ongoing Series category is FX's

Nip/Tuck.

More than 44 countries around the globe have entered shows in the festival, up 15 per cent from last year. Yes, Virginia, there really is TV outside of North America.

Canadians have long welcomed foreign programming of the non-U.S. variety. Maybe it's time to consider changing Cancon regulations to "non Ameri-con" regulations instead. I would certainly rather watch *Skins* (on Channel 4 in the U.K.) than *Gossip Girl* [Hey, speak for yourself, Nicola! —Ed.] or a bunch of lacklustre Canadian game shows cheaply produced to pander to the CRTC.

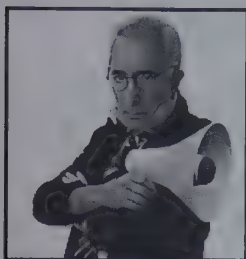
Speaking of *Gossip Girl*, the CW has decided, in a bold move, not to stream the show online because it might be too popular. The network apparently is experimenting with holding the show hostage in hopes of better ratings. It might be better off entering it in Banff, where showrunner Stephanie Savage is already slated to speak.

Banff looks awesome this year, and not just because of the shows. Where else can you take master classes with showrunners Jason Katims (*Friday Night Lights*), Craig Wright (*Dirty Sexy Money*), Doug Ellin (*Entourage*), Hart Hanson (*Bones*) and Alan Poul (*Swingtown*, premiering in May).

The Paley Center for Media in Los Angeles seems to be following Banff's example year-round, but recent panel sessions with the creators and cast of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *Mad Men* (two of my fave shows of all time) ended up being basically circle jerks with lots of in-jokes. The Banff format is still about teaching and learning instead of ego-stroking.

I expect Leonard Asper and Ivan Fecan will be in Banff in June, if only to seethe with jealousy. If politics makes strange bedfellows, then just think of what a celebrity-studded festival at the Banff Springs Hotel will do. Somebody had better warn housekeeping...

BEYOND THE BLURBS • ONLINE CRITICS HAVE THEIR SAY



Win Ben Stein's *Sympathy*! The character actor, game show host, and former Nixon speechwriter adds "propaganda" to his résumé with his new doc *Expelled*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

THIS WEEK: BEN STEIN'S BIZARRE NEW ANTI-EVOLUTION DOCUMENTARY

Vadim Ritov, *Village Voice* | "The thesis of *Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed*, a propaganda 'documentary' co-written and hosted by Ben Stein is this: teaching Darwinian evolution but ignoring intelligent design in America's public schools and universities is the biggest threat to American freedom today—bigger, presumably, than Al Qaeda, Iraq, and the recession combined. IDers protest that they're simply interested in secular alternatives to Darwinian evolution; their scientific

opponents, meanwhile, are potential Communists and Nazis. Bizarre and hysterical."

Andy Klein, *LA CityBeat* | "In its simplest terms, *Expelled* sees Hitler's push for racial cleansing as a natural result of Darwin's ideas. Whoa. Big Fucking Whoa. Stein uses his own Jewishness as a sanctimonious cudgel, heading to a concentration camp to remind us that the Holocaust was evil...and to imply that some of that evil derives from Darwin's studies. At one point, discussing his experience there on a park bench, he expresses grief by covering his face with his hands. The gesture has all the dramatic verisimilitude of

■ 30th take: Stein's limited skill as an actor has never been more apparent."

Nick Schager, *Slant* | "Court actions against intelligent design curriculums are dismissed via a movie clip of a judge making funny faces and twirling his gavel, and the scientific community's supposed fear of scrutinizing Darwinism is explained via the sight of Dorothy pulling the curtain back on the Wizard of Oz. Stein and director Nathan Frankowski fail to examine the religious underpinnings of the 'intelligent design movement,' whose on-screen adherents refuse to speculate on the source of this creative 'intelligence' because

the identity of this biological architect—God—would reveal *Expelled* as propaganda for a Christian-right movement whose own champion, Ronald Reagan, Stein ultimately depicts as his spiritual counterpart."

MaryAnn Johanson, *The Flick Filosopher* | "We cannot dismiss this movie, because anyone who cares about the ongoing war on scientific literacy in this country needs to see it in order to arm herself against the idiocy. You need to see this movie because these people are not going away, not without a fight from people who understand where they're coming from."

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8717-107 STREET • 430-0728		2040-44 Wetaskiwin • 352-3922		101 ST. • 421-7020		8820-170 STREET • 442-2400		9870-101 AVENUE (CEDAR HILL, CINEMA THEATRE) • 475-9717		CRABTREE BLVD. ST. ALBERT • 458-8922	
THE COUNTERFEITERS		SUPERHERO MOVIE		FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL		HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY		MINI SOUTH ASIAN DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL: UNHLE KO NEPAL VS SIX STORIES		FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL	
Nightly 7:00, 9:00, Sat & Sun matinees 2:00. Violence, disturbing content. Rocky Horror May 17th. <i>Expelled</i> on sale now.		Nightly 7:10, 9:10, matinee Sat Sun 1:10, 3:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
PRINCESS		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
10337-82 AVENUE • 430-0728		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20. Violence.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
THE VISITOR		HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 6:50, 9:10, Sat & Sun matinees 2:00. Coarse language. No 7 pm show Thursday, May 1.		Nightly 6:55, 9:15, matinee Sat Sun 12:55, 3:15. Coarse content, substance abuse.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
EMOTIONAL ARITHMETIC		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 7:00, 9:00, Sat & Sun matinees 2:00. Coarse language, mature themes.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
PARKLAND		WEST EDMONTON HALL, PHASE II, INTERVIEW # 444-079		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
205 Main Street, Spence Grove • 962-2332		BOX OFFICE OPENS MONDAY 6:15 • OPEN MATINEES SAT/SUN 1:30		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
BABY MAMA		NEVER BACK DOWN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 6:50, 9:05, matinees Fri Sat Sun & Tues 1:00, 3:20. Movies for Mommas. Tues 1:00. Coarse language, mature themes.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 7:00, 9:15, matinees Fri Sat Sun & Tues 12:45, 3:00. Coarse content, substance abuse.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 7:00, 9:15, matinees Fri Sat Sun & Tues 1:00, 3:30. Coarse content, substance abuse.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
88 MINUTES		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 7:00, 9:15, matinees Fri Sat Sun & Tues 12:50, 3:15. Violence.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 7:15, 9:20, matinees Fri Sat Sun & Tues 12:35, 3:10. Violence.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
MINI'S ISLAND		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 6:45, 8:50, matinees Fri Sat Sun & Tues 12:35, 3:10.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
FROM NIGHT		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 7:05, 9:20, matinees Sat Sun & Tues 12:45, 2:45. Violence.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
21		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		IRON MAN	
Nightly 6:55, 9:30, matinees Fri Sat Sun & Tues 12:30, 3:05. Violence, mature themes.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
METRO		SOUTH EDMONTON		CITY CENTRE CINEMAS		SCOTIABANK THEATRE		METRO		GRANDIN THEATRE	
9870-101 AVENUE (CEDAR HILL, CINEMA THEATRE) • 475-9717		1525 36th Street • 438-8585		101 ST. • 421-7020		8820-170 STREET • 442-2400		9870-101 AVENUE (CEDAR HILL, CINEMA THEATRE) • 475-9717		CRABTREE BLVD. ST. ALBERT • 458-8922	
MINI SOUTH ASIAN DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL: UNHLE KO NEPAL VS SIX STORIES		HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY		FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL		HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY		MINI SOUTH ASIAN DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL: UNHLE KO NEPAL VS SIX STORIES		FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL	
Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
KING CORN		DECEPTION		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		KING CORN		FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL	
Sat 7:00, Sun 9:00, Wed 9:00, Thu 9:00, Wed 9:00.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
METRO COMEDY STORES		88 MINUTES		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		METRO COMEDY STORES		FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL	
Sat 9:00.		Nightly 7:00, 9:20, matinee Sat Sun 1:00, 3:20. Violence.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Sat 9:00.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.	
AMERICAN GRAFFITI		THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM		IRON MAN		IRON MAN		AMERICAN GRAFFITI		FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL	
Sat 7:00.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10.		Fri/Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sat 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10. Sun 12:10, 2:10, 4:					



The Ladies' Womb | Tina Fey and Amy Poehler get gravid in *Baby Mama*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

MOVIES • OPENING THIS WEEK

AMERICAN GRAFFITI

Richard Dreyfuss, Ron Howard, Cindy Williams, Paul Le Mat, Charles Martin Smith, and Harrison Ford star in *Star Wars* director George Lucas' 1973 classic about a group of teens who spend an eventful night in 1962 cruising the strip before heading off to college. *Metro Cinema: Sun, Apr 27 (2pm)*

BABY MAMA

Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Sigourney Weaver, and Greg Kinnear star in writer/director Michael McCullers' comedy about an infertile businesswoman who hires an uncouth working-class woman to be her surrogate mother.

THE CAPTAIN'S PARADISE

Alec Guinness, Yvonne De Carlo, and Celia Johnson star in *The Amorous Prawn* director Anthony Kimmins' 1953 comedy about a bigamous ferryboat captain who maintains two very different households: one in Gibraltar with a dutiful homemaker, the other in Morocco with a voluptuous siren. *Royal Alberta Museum: Mon, Apr 28 (8pm)*

DAZED AND CONFUSED

Jason London, Wiley Wiggins, Adam Goldberg, and Matthew McConaughey star in *Before Sunset* writer/director Richard Linklater's uncannily evocative 1993 classic set in 1976 during the last day of classes at a Texas high school. *Metro Cinema: Sun, Apr 27 (4pm)*

DECEPTION

Ewan McGregor, Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, and Maggie Q star in director Marcel Langenegger's thriller about a mild-mannered accountant who is introduced to a high-end sex club by a friend, only to wind up the prime suspect in a woman's disappearance and a multi-million-dollar heist.

EMOTIONAL ARITHMETIC

Susan Sarandon, Christopher Plummer, Gabriel Byrne, and Max von Sydow star in director Paolo Barzman's drama about a woman who learns some surprising secrets about her past when the man who raised her and her brother (and who she believed died in Auschwitz) unexpectedly reappears at her farm in Canada. Based on the novel by Matt Cohen.

GO ORGANIC!

A collection of short documentaries about the evils of the agricultural industry and the benefits of organic farming. *Metro Cinema: Tue, Apr 29 & Thu, May 1 (7pm)*

HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY

John Cho, Kal Penn, Paula Garcés, and Neil Patrick Harris star in co-directors Jon Hurwitz and Hayden Schlossberg's sequel to 2004's *Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle*, in which the pot-smoking duo are mistaken for terrorists when they try to sneak a bong on board their flight to Amsterdam.

KING CON

Aaron Woolf's documentary uses the story of two East Coast college buddies and neophyte farmers to illustrate the state of the modern American farm, in particular the effects of the highly subsidized corn crop on the American economy and the national diet. *Metro Cinema: Sat-Thu, Apr 26-May 1 (Sat @ 7pm, Sun @ 9:30pm, Mon-Thu @ 9pm)*

METRO COMEDY SHORTS

Local comedy troupe Mostly Water Theatre hosts an evening of filmed sketches written, directed, produced, and performed by up-and-coming local talent, and asks the audience to vote on their favourites. *Metro*

Cinema: Sat, Apr 26 (9pm)

RURAL ROUTE FILM TOUR

A collection of documentaries, experimental films, and music videos on rural themes. *Metro Cinema: Mon, Apr 28 & Wed, Apr 30 (7pm)*

THE VISITOR

Richard Jenkins, Haaz Sleiman, Hiam Abbass, and Danai Gurira star in *The Station Agent* writer/director Tom McCarthy's finely observed drama about a middle-aged college professor who forms an unlikely friendship with a Syrian musician, and then champions his cause when he faces deportation.

THE WOMEN OF BRUKMAN

Isaac Isitan's documentary about the workers at a clothing factory in Argentina who are left high and dry when their cash-strapped employers abandon them, clandestinely shipping the plant's management out of the country. *Metro Cinema: Sun, Apr 27 (7pm)*

MOVIES • ALSO PLAYING

21

Remember when Kevin Spacey was regarded as the greatest actor of his generation? Were we all deluded, or was he always as smug and irritating as he is in this by-the-numbers gambling drama?

★★★★☆

88 MINUTES

This absolutely ridiculous thriller is Al Pacino's worst movie in 20 years... or at least it will be until September, when *Righteous Kill* comes out.

★☆☆☆☆

10,000 B.C.

There are *B.C.* comic strips with more historical authenticity than this movie, but that carefree disregard for all forms of scientific and dramatic logic is part of its charm. Or it would be if it weren't absolutely terrible.

★☆☆☆☆

THE BANK JOB

Everyone loves Jason Statham, but everyone also knows he doesn't always star in the

greatest movies. But this twisty heist picture, rich in nasty, gritty 1970s atmosphere, is a happy exception.

★★★★☆

BELLA

A thinly disguised pro-life tract that makes the mawkish *Under the Same Moon* (which opened in Edmonton the very same day) look like a model of tough-minded documentary realism by comparison.

★☆☆☆☆

THE COUNTERFEITERS

Even if you didn't know this true-life Holocaust drama won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, you'd probably guess it at least got a nomination. The filmmaking may be stolid and unadventurous, but the story is fascinating and Karl Markovics' central performance is subtle and deeply compelling.

★★★★☆

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

Jackie Chan and Jet Li team up for the very first time. The results are more watered-down, Westernized, and kiddie-friendly than hardcore kung fu fans would probably wish, but the fight scenes are a blast.

★★★★☆

HORTON HEARS A WHO!

It was starting to look like the only movie genre worse than adaptations of Dr. Seuss books was torture porn. Thankfully, this sweet, funny, clever expansion of the good doctor's fable about a perspicacious pachyderm has nearly as much charm as the original.

★★★★☆

NIM'S ISLAND

What attracted Jodie Foster to this cluttered, tonally muddled kiddie pic is a mystery—especially since her character, an agoraphobic author of bestselling adventure novels—is such a ninny.

★☆☆☆☆

PROM NIGHT

The wave of tepid remakes of horror films from the '70s and '80s reaches the bottom of the barrel... at least until Hollywood decides it's time to dust off *Killer Workout*.

★☆☆☆☆

SHINE A LIGHT

Even though Martin Scorsese hasn't pulled off a second *Last Waltz* with this concert film, The Rolling Stones are still great camera subjects, and their apparently undepleted reserves of energy should eventually win over even the most skeptical rock fan.

★★★★☆

SMART PEOPLE

A little less than brilliant, but not moronic either.

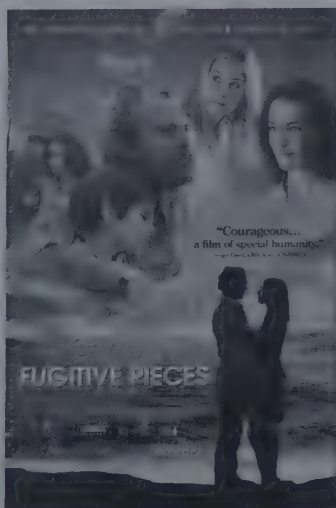
★★★★☆

STREET KINGS

Much of this lurid L.A. cop thriller plays like a melodramatic parody of the novels of James Ellroy. So it's weird that Ellroy was actually one of the screenwriters. It's even weirder that the out-of-control renegade cop is played by... Keanu Reeves?

★★★★☆

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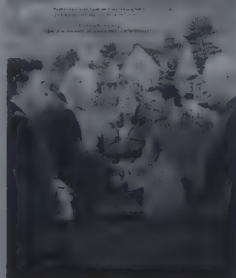
Come by SEE Magazine (2000 10275 Jasper Ave.), Friday Apr. 25th between 3:00 and 3:30 to receive your pass. Bring a donation to the Food Bank. A limited number of passes are available. SEE Magazine reserves the right to restrict prizes. You may not receive a pass if you have won in the last 30 days. Complete rules available by visiting SEE Magazine reception (or: www.seemagazine.com). Subject to classification.

IN THEATRES FRIDAY MAY 2, 2008

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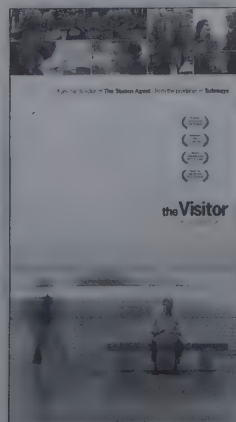
Emotional Arithmetic



Emotional Arithmetic

Nightly @ 7:00 & 9:00pm
Sat & Sun @ 2:30pm

Rated P.G. coarse language
mature themes



The Visitor

Nightly @ 6:50 & 9:10 pm
Sat & Sun @ 2:00 pm

*No 7:00 Thursday, May 1st (Private Booking)
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Visit us online @ magiccinematheatres.ca

—FIRE STAR RICK ROBERTS

THEATRE PREVIEW • KILLER MUSICAL • BY SCOTT LINGLEY (697 words)

Rock On Saturday, Worship On Sunday

FIRE TRACES ROCK 'N' ROLL AND AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY BACK TO TWO COUSINS IN THE SAME SMALL TOWN

FIRE

Directed by James Macdonald. Written by Paul Ledoux and David Young. Starring Ted Dykstra and Rick Roberts. Shorter Theatre, The Citadel, Apr. 26-May 18. Tickets available through The Citadel box office (425-1820)

It's surprising to find out that *Fire*—which is a drama with music, as opposed to a musical drama—was written by two Canadian playwrights, Paul Ledoux and David Young. It's even more surprising to find out that the play, inspired by the relationship between rock 'n' roll wildman Jerry Lee Lewis and his cousin, evangelist Jimmy Swaggart, has never played before an American audience.

"They really should see it," says Rick Roberts, who plays *Fire*'s Swaggart figure, fundamentalist firebrand Herchel Blackwater. "They really should see it, but it's a bit too hard for them, for Americans and their relationship with Christianity. Churchgoers who see the play get a lot out of it, but I get the feeling that anyone who wanted to produce it in the States would have a tough time because it holds a difficult mirror up to that sort of evangelism."

All the same, *Fire* enjoys a national reputation as a great Canadian musical, one's that's been regularly revived over the past two decades. "I realize it's not very Canadian," Roberts admits from his home base in Toronto, where the play has just completed a month-long run. "Our churchgoing experiences don't have that kind of fire. I grew up in the United Church and it was all pretty subdued—some folksinging, tops. The energy of Jimmy Swaggart and Jerry Lee Lewis—I mean, they gave birth to these things. Evangelism and

rock 'n' roll basically came from the same town."

Part of what makes *Fire*'s subject matter so charged is not tawdry revelations about the carnal appetites of the play's Christian characters, but the ruthless pursuit of political power by the Lord's servants. As Roberts points out, *Fire* was written in 1987, before the powerful Swaggart fell from grace based on allegations that he had spent copious church donations on prostitutes. What was more alarming to the playwrights back then was the increasingly cozy relationship between right-wing politicians and fundamentalist religious leaders.

"People who saw it 20 years ago tell us it seems even more relevant today," says Roberts. "Back then, all that televangelism was new and it was huge, but now it's really been woven into politics. The erosion of the separation between church and state feels like a done deal now."

Resonance with the burning issues of the day is all to the good, but Hamilton-born, Edmonton-raised Roberts says the best reason to see the play is that it bundles all the energy and charisma of classic rock 'n' roll and tent-show revivalism into a roof-raising theatrical experience.

"It's almost like a rock 'n' roll revival meeting," he says. "The whole cast is firing on all cylinders and it's a rare show to work on as an actor, where you get to put it all out there. It definitely goes right to the back of the theatre."

Roberts reserves special praise for Ted Dykstra, the actor/musician who plays as Herchel's brother Cale, whose antics are based on the piano-trashing, younger-cousin-marrying, substance-abusing legend of the man they called "The Killer."

"Ted is a phenomenal all-around performer and the songs are done up



Pulpit Fiction | Rick Roberts channels the evangelical spirit of Jimmy Swaggart as "Herchel Blackwater" in *Fire*. PHOTO BY CYLLA VON TIEDEMAN

big time," Roberts says. "Ted kills the piano He's broken a few strings and it has to be tuned a couple of times a week. We're kind of two peas in the same pod, so I have to use my meagre talent to keep up."

While the emphasis is on flamboyant entertainment, Roberts says the play has a tragic core, and that it never treats its religious elements

with condescension or disdain.

"What religion is in our culture—particularly televangelism and American Christianity—is a very loaded topic, so [as an actor] you have to make sure that you really root the arguments in things that are true to yourself and not send them up or darken them," Roberts says. "Something this play does is that it

honours the genuine Christian impulse and I think the writers were very smart in that.

"When you strip it all back to the Gospels and the Sermon on the Mount, there are a lot of good things for people to think about in those things, but then you watch that getting corrupted over the course of the play."



Stutter Nonsense? | Blerf poet Jordan Scott turns his tongue-tied speech to his advantage in his new collection of verse. PHOTO SUPPLIED

ARTS NEWS • NOTABLE HAPPENINGS FROM THE THEATRE TO THE BOOKSTORE

POETRY

Blerfs So Good

British Columbia poet Jordan Scott calls his new book *Blerf*, which the specialized term he's invented for stuttering—not just the annoyance of getting temporarily stuck on a consonant or a vowel, but the poetics of stuttering, the method by which he transforms his tussles with language into a style of writing that embraces the "granular texture of words" and turns it into a sort of music. "I dig the pure racket, thumpology, and bang-on-a-can exuberance of these tongue-tied riffs," says Dennis Lee, and you can too this Sunday at 2 p.m. when Scott launches *Blerf* at Audrey's Books downtown.

TRIUMPHS FOR WOMANKIND

Made Marianne

The historic lack of female artistic directors among Edmonton theatre companies has always been a source of embarrassment for our city, but the Free Will Players did their part to rectify that situation last week by naming **Marianne Copithorne** as their new creative head honcho, taking over from John Kirkpatrick. Concrete Theatre's Mieko Ouchi and Caroline Howarth, Theatre Yes' Heather Inglis, and Dammitdance's Amber Borotik will undoubtedly welcome Copithorne into their select ranks, and watch eagerly as she announces the River City Shakespeare Festival's 20th anniversary lineup on June 2.

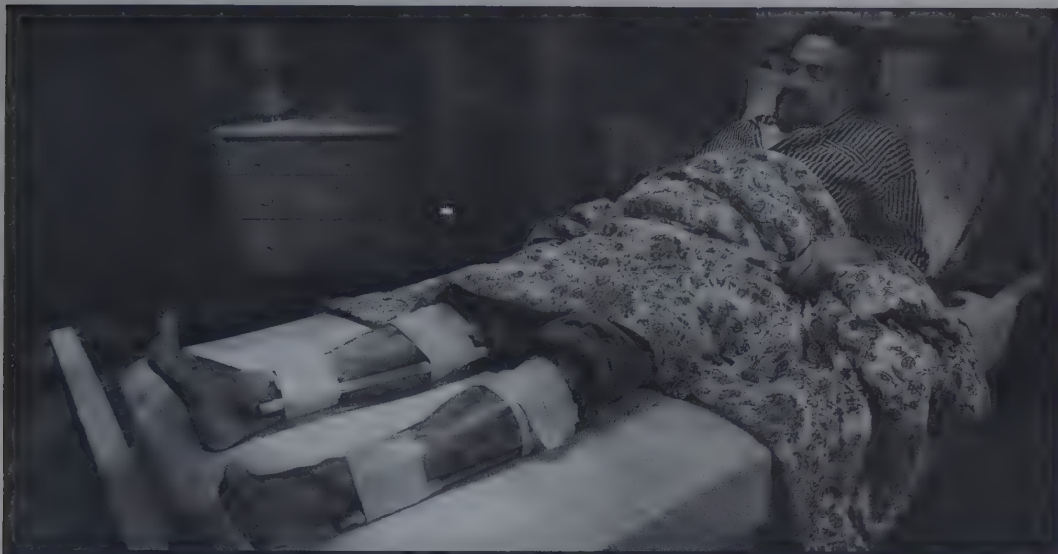
COMEDY

Water And Jugs

Saturday night is a good night for Edmonton comedy fans, with two fun events in two different but easily co-ordinated locations. First off, at 9 p.m., Mostly Water Theatre presents the first edition of **Metro Comedy Shorts** at Metro Cinema: it's a monthly program of new, locally produced short comic films awarded prizes by local judges and audiences. Once the winners have taken their bows, it's time for you to hurry off to the Varsity Theatre, where another episode of **Oh Sussanah** gets underway at 11 p.m. But once that's over with, we're afraid you're going to have to find some way of amusing yourself.

THEATRE PREVIEW • NUMBER-ONE FAN • BY SCOTT LINGLEY | 497 words

Annie Wilkes Invades The Roxy



Creatively Hobbled | David McNally braces himself for the next bedside visit from Nancy McAleer in *Misery*. PHOTO BY MERYL SMITH LAWTON | EPIC PHOTOGRAPHY

WHY IS THEATRE NETWORK DOING A STEPHEN KING NOVEL? BRADLEY MOSS DEFENDS HIS CHOICE OF *MISERY*

MISERY

Directed by Bradley Moss. Written by Simon Moore, based on the novel by Stephen King. Starring Nancy McAleer and David McNally. Apr. 24-May 11, The Roxy (10708-124 St.). Tickets available at The Roxy box office (453-2440).

"When I informed the Canada Council of our choices for the season, my officer in Edmonton sent back an e-mail that said 'Misery??' muses Bradley Moss, artistic director of Theatre Network and director of Simon Moore's adaptation of Stephen

King's novel. Moss seems concerned that his decision to stage a work derived from the most popular horror novelist of all time, though well supported by his board of directors and the theatre's staff, will be seen as somehow beneath the artistic standards of a professional theatre company. All the same, he's ready to trust his instincts.

"I think that's what got me cranked about the play is that Stephen King is a really great writer. He's writing about what he knows—there's an authenticity in this book. He's not bullshitting you, he's sharing something about the human condition. We're not far removed from vio-

lence or from absolute cruelty to one another. That's the psychological creepiness of the play to me."

Or maybe Moss relates to the themes he's identified in the source

member writing entire books. Upon crash-landing in rehab, he confronted the fear that he wouldn't be able to write without chemical stimulation and struggled with the great bur-

HE'S NOT BULLSHITTING YOU, HE'S SHARING SOMETHING ABOUT THE HUMAN CONDITION. WE'RE NOT FAR REMOVED FROM VIOLENCE OR FROM ABSOLUTE CRUELTY TO ONE ANOTHER. THAT'S THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CREEPINESS OF THE PLAY TO ME. —BRADLEY MOSS, DIRECTOR

work. *Misery* comes out of a particularly dark time in the author's life. King has admitted he was so heavily addicted to a daily regimen of booze and drugs, both licit and illicit, for part of the 1980s that he can't re-

den of his audience's expectations. Moss observes that Annie Wilkes, the number-one-fan/abductor of romance writer Paul Sheldon—brought to Oscar-winning life by Kathy Bates in the 1990 film version of *Misery*—

is a nightmare externalization of the artist's fear.

"Annie to me embodies the sense that you're only as good as a certain kind of work, or they only like you when you do a certain kind of work. And Annie totally nails Paul at various points in the play. She's a very tough dramaturge—and often she's right, though pretty extreme," he says with a laugh.

Whatever you might think of King's work, *Misery* looks like a no-brainer for stage adaptation. It's a tense two-hander set in a remote farmhouse where psychotic nurse Annie has confined arrogant writer Paul and cruelly compels him to resurrect *Misery* Chastain, the fictional heroine he's killed off in his most recent book. Moss has recruited Nancy McAleer and David McNally for his cast, David Fraser for production design and Dave Clarke for sound design. New technology has been brought into play, as well, courtesy of a 12-channel sound mix and automated lighting cues. Moss says preparations for the play have been among the best rehearsals he's ever had.

"I hope I haven't turned it into a black comedy, which is my nature,"

he says. "I think we've stayed true to the psychological aspect to it, but we've taken a lot of delight in putting it together and I hope that comes across in the ride that we're going on."

cherish

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FREE PARKING AT BACK ENTRANCE

DANCE PREVIEW • HIP-HOP MEETS HIGH CULTURE • BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 684 words

The Rubber Meets The Road



This Is Not Julia Stiles | It's Anne Plamondon, one of Victor Quijada's key collaborators in the hip-hop/ballet mashups of *Elastic Perspective Redux*. PHOTO © NATALIE GALAZKA

VICTOR QUIJADA STRETCHES THE BOUNDARIES OF HIP-HOP AND BALLET IN *ELASTIC PERSPECTIVE REDUX*

ELASTIC PERSPECTIVE REDUX

Choreographed by Victor Quijada. Performed by Rubberbandance Group. Presented by Brian Webb Dance Company, Apr 28-29, Timms Centre for the Arts (University of Alberta). Tickets available through TIX on the Square (420-775/tixonthesquare.ca).

He started out breakdancing and B-boying on the streets of South Central Los Angeles when he was just eight years old. By the time he was in his teens, he'd made a name for himself in the neighbourhood with his rubber-jointed dance style—and

his talent was promising enough that he got accepted into the Los Angeles High School for the Arts, studying ballet and theatre.

It was a challenge at first for this willful, opinionated, passionate kid to adapt to the more structured, disciplined world of ballet, but he soon thrived, finding a way to fuse hip-hop and ballet into his own brand of energetic, expressive choreography.

In other words, Victor Quijada is like the romantic lead from every single clichéd teen-targeted "urban" dance movie Hollywood has made in the last 15 years, from *Save the Last Dance to Step Up to How She Move*. "I don't know," he says. "It didn't feel like a cliché when I was living it."

Quijada is speaking over the phone from Vancouver, where his troupe, Rubberbandance Group (named after Quijada's B-boy nickname), is in the middle of touring *Elastic Perspective Redux*, a collection of some

VICTOR QUIJADA IS LIKE THE ROMANTIC LEAD FROM EVERY SINGLE CLICHÉD TEEN-TARGETED "URBAN" DANCE MOVIE HOLLYWOOD HAS MADE IN THE LAST 15 YEARS, FROM *SAVE THE LAST DANCE* TO *STEP UP* TO *HOW SHE MOVE*.

of Quijada's early experiments in fusing hip hop and ballet.

"I started out," he says, "wondering if it was possible to recreate the energy and the spontaneity of those

freestyle circles that I was part of, growing up in the clubs, where there is no audience and everyone's a participant. Can I bring that energy onstage? No, I couldn't. Once you take it out of its context, it loses something. It has to change. So then I tried taking that raw energy and putting it into a more formal composition—what if, for instance, I couple that energy with 100-year-old music?"

That was the thinking that led to pieces like "Secret Service," a hip-hop routine set to Sergei Prokofiev's ballet score from *Romeo and Juliet*, and "The Traviatta," which uses the music of Giuseppe Verdi. The pieces may sound a little gimmicky, and even Quijada admits that in a lot of these early works, the synthesis between old and new wasn't as complete as he was looking for—it certainly doesn't have the seamlessness of more recent works like *AV Input/Output*, where Quijada says it's impossible to tell where the hip-hop ends and the ballet begins.

But Quijada also says it's important to him for audiences to see the rawer

The same goes for hip-hop in general. "I hope hip-hop doesn't get stuck in history," Quijada says. "It's a living culture. I mean, when I went to high school and started learning about artists like Dali, it really influenced my understanding of what hip-hop could be. I was part of a culture that was so young, and I was being exposed to other movements that were so mature—it made me question how profoundly we had actually explored hip-hop, whether we had found ways for it to express something other than 'I'm bad, I'm the best.'"

And if hip-hop diehards find that a controversial stance, Quijada offers no apologies. "Hip-hop is an immature artform," he says. "It's, what, 40 years old? Compare that to 300 years of ballet, however many hundreds of years of classical music and painters who have pushed and pushed the artform."

"That's what I'm looking for when I'm hiring dancers for my company," he concludes. "I'm looking for people with an exploratory nature. Are they hard to find? No. Actually, I think there's a new generation of contemporary dancers out there who are more inclined that way. I think that's why the reception for what we're doing has been so enthusiastic; contemporary dance has been in kind of a stale place for a while, and I think people are just dying for someone to come along who'll bring a whole new perspective to it."

I wait for him to add, "An elastic perspective." But he doesn't. Of course not. That would be a cliché.

SEMIOTICS FOR DUMMIES • MUSE JUNKIE | 547 words

A Real "Eye" Opener

MY LITTLE EYE LINDSEY ROCK SEE'S NEW CULTURAL COLUMN BEGINS BY STATING ITS MISSION... AND OGGLING TINA FEY AND AMY POEHLER

Last week the opportunity to have a regular column here in *SEE* dropped into my lap—out of the clear blue sky. So what am I doing here? Well, to be honest, I'm still sorting that one out myself, but in the meantime you can expect to find me here twice a month, riffing on the visual aspects of popular culture. *My Little Eye* is about "signs"—and a sign is an object, an image, a thing. It's the media and the medium, if you will.

Let's pretend I'm the secret decoder ring you found in your cereal box. In some entries I might unravel a potentially interesting message. Other times, you may be as disappointed

in me as the kid from *A Christmas Story* who learns Little Orphan Annie's secret message is actually "Remember to drink your Ovaltine." Fear not: I won't make a habit of recommending Ovaltine.

Here's the plan, Stan. The medium is the message—hey, thanks, Marshall MacLuhan, for summing things up so efficiently. For our purposes here, interpreting "signs" will be about reading between the lines. It's how we make sense of media, how popular culture reaches out and affects us, and what we do with that.

As for the Socratic method... well, I know about as much about Socrates as Bill and Ted. I hope that you, dear reader, will find this agreeable. I operate on the premise that "true wisdom is in knowing that I know nothing."

I've been making "astute" obser-



All Is Vanity | Sarah Silverman, Tina Fey, and Amy Poehler grace the cover of *Vanity Fair*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

ventions about pop culture for years now on an amateur basis. They don't always go over well with everyone. It's true: not everyone cares what I have to say. I may know nothing, but

I certainly have a lot to say about it. More importantly, I have some questions to ask.

Jumping right in, have you seen the cover of the April *Vanity Fair*? First of all, the cover refers to a feature story on whether or not women can be/are funny. This is in response to an article in *Vanity Fair*'s January 2007 issue in which Christopher Hitchens investigated why, in his opinion, women aren't funny.

This is a fallacy deeply ingrained into the psyche of popular culture. Turn on the TV and you might observe how wives and mothers maintain the order and keep the family unit together. They are the straight (wo)men to the antics of their sitcom husbands.

Back in the 1990s, much to my disappointment, actor Jeremy Piven made a similar claim as Hitchens. In 2000, comedian/actor Jerry

Lewis more predictably asserted on *Larry King Live* that he didn't care for female comedians. It is commonly thrown out and accepted as cold hard fact: women are not funny.

And yet, clearly, women are funny—especially when Amy Poehler gently grabs Tina Fey's delicate lily-white breast. Fey, Poehler, and Sarah Silverman grace this *Vanity Fair* cover, posed like ancient Greek muses. But the image begs the question: if they're the muses, whom are they musing? There is a difference between being amusing and being a muse. Got it?

So then, I will interrogate popular culture—the signs that catch My Little Eye and make me think. I'll ask some questions and then I'll tell you what I think, hopefully serving both as muse and amusement in the process. Sound fair?

HIGHLIGHT • ALBERTA AUTHORS



Swat Team | Fly on the Wall is the work of Red Deerites Jason Brink and Jim Westergard. PHOTO SUPPLIED

Fly on the Wall • May 12 (7pm) • Audrey's Books • Free

This new book by Red Deer author Jason Brink may be only 234 pages long, but it contains 53 stories and 53 pen-and-ink drawings by Red Deer illustrator Jim Westergard. Now that's what we call value for your money! And the stories are pretty terrific, too—terse, funny, slice-of-life vignettes, all told from the perspective of an unnoticed insectoid voyeur. Buy a copy now and you can impress Brink at his May 12 appearance at Audrey's Books by telling him you've read it cover to cover three times already!

EXHIBITS

ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL 455 KING ST., SPRUCE GROVE, 962-0664 UNTIL MAY 11 "Life Lines" by Filamenta. Info: www.alliedartsCouncil.com.
ALBERTA CRAFT COUNCIL 10186-106 ST., 488-6617 EXT. 221. UNTIL MAY 1 "Alberta Is My Home" new ceramic work by Sam Uhllick. Info: www.albertacraft.ca.
AGNES BUGERA GALLERY 12310 JASPER AVE. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm.

THE ARTERY 9535 JASPER AVE. Hours: Thu 5-7 pm, or by appointment. Info: theartery@infole.ca.
ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA ENTERPRISE SQUARE, #100, 10230 JASPER AVE., 422-6223 UNTIL MAY 4 "Seeing Through Modernism: Edmonton 1970-1985", over 30 artists examine the rise of modernism in Edmonton. "Awakening: The Art of iHuman", works by youth in the iHuman Youth Society program. UNTIL JUN 8 "Projections", projection art from 1969-1989 featuring works by Michael Snow, David Hoffos, and Ian Can-Harris. "The Reflecting Pool" by Bill Viola and "Raw Material OK OK OK" by Bruce Nauman. Hours: Mon-Fri 11 am-5 pm.



10:30 am-5 pm, Thu 4-8 pm free admission. Sat & Sun 11 am-5 pm. Info: www.artgalleryalberta.com.
ARTS HAB STUDIO GALLERY 3RD FL., 1027-106 ST., 439-9322 UNTIL MAY 5 "Material Functions", paintings by Josée Aubin Ouellette and Mandy Espezel, and new works by ArtsHab residents. Hours: Thu 5-8 pm, or by appointment. Info: www.artshab.com.

BEARCLAW GALLERY 10403-124 ST., 482-1204 Info: bearclawgallery.com.

BLUE CURVE GALLERY GLENROSE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL, 10230-111 AVE. Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 am-2 pm.

BRUCE PEEL SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY RUTHERFORD SOUTH, U OF A UNTIL APR 30 "Mappae Mundi" selections from the U of A's maps and special collections, focusing on the study of the cultures of Medieval and early modern Europe. Curated by Michael Fox and Stephen R. Reimer. Free Admission.

CABINET GALLERY NOKOMIS CLOTHING, 10318-82 AVE.

THROUGHOUT APR Works by Jeff Kulak, Josée Aubin Ouellette, and Adam Waldron-Blain. Info: www.institutepartechute.ca.

THE CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE 9351-118 AVE., 477-1580 "The Rescue", installation by glass artist Keith Walker. Info: www.theartco.ca.

CENTRE D'ARTS VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA 9103-95 AVE., 461-3427 UNTIL MAY 6 "Celebration" by various artists. Info: 461-3427.

COLLECTIVE CONTEMPORARY ART 6507-112 AVE., 491-0002 Info: www.collectivart.ca.

CHRISTL BERGSTROM'S RED GALLERY 9621-82 AVE., 439-6210 "Mother and Child", a reflection on family and the art of painting by Christl Bergstrom. Hours: Mon-Fri 11 am-5 pm.

DESIGN INTERCHANGE ENTERPRISE SQUARE, 10230 JASPER AVE. UNTIL MAY 5 "Design Works", innovative works by U of A Design staff and students.

DOUGLAS ODELL GALLERY 10322-124 ST., 488-4445 APR 25 "Spring Show". APR 26-MAY 10 Artwork by Dorothy Knowles. Hours: Tue-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm. Info: douglasodellgallery.com.

ELECTRUM DESIGN STUDIO 12419 STONY PLAIN RD., 482-1402 New works from various artists. Info: www.waynemackenziejodsmith.com.

EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY MAIN FLOOR ATRIUM, ENTERPRISE SQUARE, 10230 JASPER AVE. Hours: Daily 7 am-11 pm. Info: www.extensionualberta.ca.

FAB GALLERY 1-1 FINE ARTS BUILDING, U OF A CAMPUS UNTIL MAY 3 "Points of Origin", by the 2008 Bachelor of Fine Arts graduating class. Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat 2-5 pm.

FRINGE GALLERY 10516 WHYTE AVE., 432-0240 UNTIL APR 11 "Double Take", by Beth Pederson, Neil McClelland, and Jana Hargarten. Info: www.paintspot.ca.

FRONT GALLERY 12312 JASPER AVE., 488-2952 GALLERY AT MILNER STANLEY A. MILNER REARD. CHURCHILL SQUARE UNTIL APR 30 "Show Off: A Teen Art Show".

HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY 3RD FL., 10215-112 ST., 426-4180 UNTIL MAY 24 "Issue 10 Paper" by Judy Anderson, and "To Swerve and Reject" by Roger Grait. Info: www.harcourthouse.ab.ca.

JEFF ALLEN GALLERY STRATHCONA SENIORS CENTRE, 10831 UNIVERSITY AVE., 433-5807 APR 29-MAY 29 "Burst of Colour" by various artists. Hours: Mon-Thu, 9 am-4 pm.

JOHNSON GALLERY 771-65 ST., 465-6777 Edmonton Oil Painters working in-studio throughout the season. Artists featured include Susan Alma, Susan Box, Shari Honey, David Brooks, Margaret Klappstein, Tracy Mardon, Anne McCormick, and Cindy Revel. Info: susanalma.com.

LANDO GALLERY 11730-105 AVE., 990-1161 Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-4:30 pm. Info: www.landogallery.com.

LATITUDE 53 10248-106 ST., 423-5533 Hours: Tue-Fri 10 am-6 pm, Sat 12-5 pm. Info: www.latitude53.org.

LOFT GALLERY A.J. OTTEWELL CENTRE, 590 BROADMOOR BLVD., SHERWOOD PARK, 448-4481 UNTIL MAY 31 New works by artists Anne McCartney, Audrey Josephson, Dorothy Burgess, Brenda Doris, Desirée Plewis, Cornelia Martin-Hansen, Barbara Carle-Kowalewski, and Ruth Campbell. Hours: Thurs 5-9 pm, and Sat 10 am-5 pm (except holiday weekends). Info: Kaye 467-4481.

MACLEAN CENTRE FOR THE ARTS 10045-156 ST. UNTIL APR 25 "Design Studies Grad Show" by MacLean Design Students. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat-Sun 12-5 pm.

MANDOLIN BOOKS 6419-112 AVE., 479-4050

MC MULLEN GALLERY 8440-112 ST., U OF A HOSPITAL, 407-7152 UNTIL JUN 15 "Extraordinary Places: Canada's UNESCO World Heritage Sites", fibre artists Donna Clement and Lesley Turner aim to increase awareness and advocate UNESCO sites in Canada. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat-Sun noon-6 pm. Admission free.

NINA HAGGERTY ART, 474-7611 Studio hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-2 pm. Gallery hours: Mon, Wed & Fri 9:30 am-2:30 pm, Tue & Thu 9:30 am-4 pm & 6-8 pm. Info: www.ninahaggertyart.ca.

NORTH EDMONTON SCULPTURE WORKSHOP 10546-115 ST., 482-2685 UNTIL APR 30 "Autograph", sculptures and drawings by Rob Williams. Daytime viewing by appointment: 482-2685.

OUT OF THE FIRE STUDIO 12714 JASPER AVE., 378-0240 UNTIL MAY 3 "Potheads", by Cindy Clarke. Info: www.outofthefirestudio.com.

PETER ROBERTSON GALLERY 10183-112 ST. UNTIL MAY 3 "Dreaming in Colour", by artist Bobbie Burgers. Hours: Tue-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm. Info: www.peterrobertsongallery.com.

PETER ROBERTSON GALLERY 2 12304 JASPER AVE., 455-7479 Group show, works by David Alexander and Gregory Hardy. Hours: Tue-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm. Info: www.peterrobertsongallery.com.

PICTURE THIS GALLERY 599 ORR RD., SHERWOOD PARK, 467-3038 Info: www.picturethisgallery.com.

PLANET Z DESIGN CENTRE 10055-80 AVE., 428-3499 Ongoing displays include functional sculpture and jewelry by Sandra Sing Fernandes, metal sculpture by Linda

Manes and Bianca Khan, and paintings by Quentin Maki and Tim Rechner.

PORTAL GALLERY #300, 9414-91 ST., 702-7522 UNTIL MAY 23 "Flickers" by Kamal Toor. Hours: Tue-Fri 12-6 pm, Sat 12-7 pm. Info: www.theportalgallery.com.

PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY 19 PERROW ST., ST. ALBERT, 460-4310 UNTIL APR 26 "Land Poems" by Sharon A. Malayko.

Lyndal Osborne, Lorraine Shulba, and Garry Williams. MAY 1-31 "High Energy XII 30".

ROWLES & CO. LTD. MEZZANINE LEVEL, 1030-103 ST., 426-4035 Info: www.rowles.ca.

SCOTT GALLERY 10411-124 ST., 488-3619 Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm. Info: www.scottgallery.com.

SCULPTURE STUDIO & GALLERY SHERWOOD PARK, 662-4160 Figurative and abstract sculpture by Horst D. Info: www.horst-sculpture.ca.

SELFIDGE POTTERY STUDIO 9844-88 AVE., 439-9296 Hours: 11 am-5 pm. Info: www.selfidgepottery.com.

SNAP GALLERY SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ALBERTA PRINT ARTISTS 10309-97 ST., 422-1492 Hours: Tue-Sat 12-5 pm. Info: snap@snapartists.com.

STRATHCONA COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES 913 AISH ST., SHERWOOD PARK, 476-8189 Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-4 pm. Info: www.strathcona-county-museum.ca.

STUDIO GALLERY 11 PERRON ST., ST. ALBERT, 460-5993 UNTIL APR 11 "Nouveau Artiste" by Miles Constable. MAY 1-31 "Skies, Stubble, and Sloughs" by Bruce Thompson. Hours: Thu 12-8 pm, Fri 10 am-6 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm.

TELLUS WORLD OF SCIENCE 11271-142 ST., 451-3344 Permanent Exhibits include The Body Fantastic, Mystery Avenue, The Greens' House, Space Place, Discoveryland, and Dinoland in the Explorer Gallery. Synchrude Science Stage features science demos, Cryogenics, Electricity, and What Puts The fizz in Soda Pop? Info: 451-3344, www.odysseyium.com.

TU GALLERY 10718-124 ST., 452-9662 Info: www.tugallery.ca.

URBAN ROOTS 10418-82 AVE., 438-7978 UNTIL MAY 31 "Two Artists, Two Visions", sculptures by Horst Dold and paintings by Paddy Lamb. Hours: Wed-Sat 12-4 pm. Info: 438-7978.

VAAA GALLERY VISUAL ARTS ALBERTA ASSOCIATION 390 FL., 10215-112 ST., 471-1731 UNTIL MAY 24 "True Colours", watercolours by Wilfred Chiu and fibre art by Ann Haessel. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-4 pm, Sat 12-4 pm.

WEST END GALLERY 12308 JASPER AVE., 488-4892 Hours: Tue-Sat 10 am-5 pm. Info: www.westendgalleryttd.com.

WORKS GALLERY #200, 10225-100 AVE., 426-2122 Hours: Mon-Fri 12-5 pm. Info: www.works.ab.ca.

ZIEGLER HUGHES GALLERY & SERENDIPITY FRAMING 9860-90 AVE., 433-0388 Anahuacalli Mexican jewelry and art works by Canadian and Mexican artists. Hours: Tue-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thu-Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat noon-8 pm, Sun noon-5 pm.

ZOCALO 10826-95 ST., 428-0754 International crafts, artwork, and tropical flowers. Hours: Mon-Wed & Fri 10-6 pm, Thu 10-9 pm, Sat 9-5 pm, Sun 12-5 pm.

MUSEUMS

ALBERTA AVIATION MUSEUM 11410 KINGSWAY AVE., 451-1175 Edmonton bush pilot display in WWII-era double-wide, double-long hangar. Hours: Daily, 10 am-4 pm.

CANADIAN PETROLEUM DISCOVERY CENTRE LEDUC #1 DISCOVERY WELL, LEDUC. Guided tours, tailored education programs for classes K-12, safety courses and industry training, campground, library, and historical archives. Info: 1-866-987-4323 or www.c-pic.org.

CITY OF EDMONTON ARCHIVES 10440-108 AVE., 496-8710 Over 50,000 catalogued photographs and slides from the 1880s to the present. Two display galleries. Free admission. Hours: Weekdays 8:30 am-4:30 pm.

JOHN WALTER MUSEUM 10661-914 AVE., 496-8787 Admission free, donations gladly accepted. Info: www.edmonton.ca/johnwalter

LOYAL EDMONTON REGIMENT MILITARY MUSEUM #118, PRINCE OF WALES ARMOURIES HERITAGE CENTRE, 10440-108 AVE. Hours: Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm.

MUSÉE HÉRITAGE #5 ST. ANNE ST., ST. ALBERT, 459-1528

Hours: Mon-Sat, 10 am-5 pm; Sun, 1-5 pm. Admission by donation, suggested donation \$2.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA 8555 ROPER RD., 427-1750 Preserving the collective memory of Alberta, and the protection of Albertan identity. Info: www.tprc.gov.ab.ca/paa.

ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM 12845-102 AVE., 453-9100 UNTIL MAY 4 "The Photographic Arts Society of Alberta". Permanent exhibits include "Wild Alberta" exploring Alberta's natural habitat, Synchrude Gallery of Aboriginal Culture, The Natural History Gallery, examining historic geographical changes in Alberta. Hours: Mon-Sun, 9 am-5 pm. Info: www.royalalbertamuseum.ca.

DANCE

CONTACT IMPROV IAM @ MILE ZERO DANCE All movers, musicians, and artists welcome. Info: 450-3336.

DANCE OF UNIVERSAL PACE 2ND & 4TH THU EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM. RIVERDALE HALL, 9231-100 AVE. Info: 467-1285.

ELASTIC PERSPECTIVE APR 28-29, TIMMS CENTRE, 88 AVE. & 112 ST. Montreal's Rubberdance group. Presented by Brian Webb Dance Company. Tickets \$21 at TIX.

FLAMENCO SHOW MAY 4, 4 PM. STANLEY MILNER LIBRARY THEATRE, #7 SR WINSTON CHURCHILL SQUARE Performance by the Pedro Goya Spanish Flamenco Dancers. Tickets: \$12 at the door.

NINE POINTS TO NAVIGATE MAY 15-17, 8 PM AND 2 PM. MAY 18, 8 PM. TIMMS CENTRE, 88 AVE. & 112 ST. Brian Webb Dance Company and Sheli Somerville presents an interdisciplinary dance piece. Tickets \$25, \$15 student/senior at TIX.

RODA DE CAPOEIRA SATURDAYS, 1-2 PM, CAPOEIRA ACADEMY, 10540 JASPER AVE., 709-3500 A free performance of Capoeira, a Brazilian mix of dance, martial arts and music, invented by African slaves. Info: www.capeoiaedmonton.ca.

THEATRE

4-48 PSYCHOSIS MAY 9-17, 8 PM, SAT 2 PM. TRANSALTA ARTS BARNIS play by controversial English writer, Sarah Kane. Directed by Amy Defelice. Tickets: \$18, \$15 students/seniors at TIX.

CHERISH MAY 1-7, THE THIRD SPACE, 11516-103 ST. Canadian premiere by Ken Duncan. A play examining gay parents and surrogacy. Tickets: \$20, \$18 student/senior at TIX.

CRAYE MAY 16-25, 8 PM. TUE-SAT 2 PM. THE THIRD SPACE, 11516-103 ST. Explores the deconstruction of the human mind under the pressures of love, loss, and longing. Tickets: \$16, \$14 students/seniors at the door.

DES FLOCONS/POUR ALICIA UNTIL APR 25, 8 PM. SUN MATINEE 2 PM. LA CITE FRANCOPHONE, 8627-91 ST. A northern tale on Peter Pan with an environmental twist. Tickets: \$23, \$15 students at TIX.

THE ELEPHANT MAN MAY 15-24, 7:30 PM. TIMMS CENTRE, 88 AVE. & 112 ST. Bernard Pomerance's Award winning play. Tickets at Timms Centre Box Office.

THE END OF THE PROJECT MAY 15-17, 8 PM. MAY 18, 2 PM. CATALYST THEATRE, 6529-103 ST. Multimedia performance of Oliver Messiaen's visionary quartet. Tickets: \$20, \$10 student/senior at TIX.

FALSTAFF APR 19, 22 & 24, 7:30 PM. JUBILEE AUDITORIUM The Edmonton Opera presents Verdi's opera based on Shakespeare's "Henry Wives of Windsor". Tickets at T.M.

MISERY APR 24-MAY 11, TUES-SAT 8 PM. SUN 2 PM. THE ROXY THEATRE, 1028-124 ST. Written by Stephen King, adapted for the stage by Simon Moore. Tickets \$25-\$27, \$19 students. At The Roxy Box Office or TIX.

RAPID FIRE THEATRE BEVERLY FRI & SAT, 11 PM. VARSCONA THEATRE, 10259-83 AVE., 448-0695 TheatreSports Fridays, Chimprovs Saturdays. \$10 at the door. Info: www.rapid-firetheatre.com.

SECOND YEAR MUSICAL REVUE APR 24, 7:30 PM. JOHN L. HAAR THEATRE, MACLEAN CENTRE FOR THE ARTS. Solo, duet, and group song and dance numbers. Tickets \$15 at TIX.

LIVE COMEDY

BOB SAGET MAY 7, 7 PM. THE VENUE AT RIVER CREE CASINO Tickets: \$54.50 reserved seating, \$44.50 general admission at TM.

RAPID FIRE IMPROV VARSCONA THEATRE, 10259-83 AVE., 448-0695 TheatreSports Fri, 11 pm. Chimprovs Sat, 11 pm. \$10 at the door.

THE COMEDY FACTORY #408, 3414 GATEWAY BLVD., 469-4999 APR 24-26 Darnold Tschritter: Hit or Miss Mon. shows, Thurs & Fri 8:30, Sat 8:30 & 10:30 pm. Info: www.thecomedyfactory.com.

THE COMIC STRIP BOURBON ST., WEST EDMONTON MALL, 483-5999 APR 24-27 Darnold Tschritter: Hit or Miss Mon. shows, amateurs compete for audience approval. Tuesdays Alternative Comedy Night.

THE LAUGH SHOP LONDONDERRY MALL, 66 ST. & 137 AVE., 476-1010 Tuesday Amateur Night, Wednesday Comedy Challenge. Info: thelaughshop.ca.

Visit www.northerncountryfair.ab.ca for ticket & event info!

Goodness, Gracious, Great Balls! And Fire!



SAVAGE LOVE: DAN SAVAGE

YOUR GAY DRAGON FETISH IS ONE THAT WILL SADLY REMAIN UNREALIZABLE, EVEN IN OUR FUCKBOT-FILLED FUTURE

I am a young, straight male—but I have this obsession with male-on-male dino-dragon porn. I don't get it. I'M SUPPOSED TO BE STRAIGHT! Am I psychotic or what?

Dinos Really Are Gonna Overtake Now

You're not psychotic, DRAGON, just pathetic.

I don't mean pathetic in the "laughable or contemptible" sense of the word, DRAGON, I mean it in the pitiable sense. You're one those poor unfortunate souls saddled with an unrealizable sexual fantasy. Beat off to dino-dragon porn as much as you care to—and you clearly care to—but, like a man with a giantess fetish or some dude into boytaurs, you will never meet the object of your peculiar affections in the flesh, scales, and tails.

Well, not for at least 50 years or so.

In his newish book *Love and Sex With Robots*, author David Levy predicts that in five decades or so, people are going to be fucking and falling in love with humanoid sex robots. Levy believes that some people are going to have a problem with the humanoid fuckbots in our future. I disagree. People aren't going to have a problem with dudes fucking and/or marrying humanoid robots. It's dudes like DRAGON, here—men and women fucking and/or married to dino-dragon robots, robot centaurs, 50-foot-tall female robots, and, it pains me to say, kid robots—who are going to freak people the fuck out.

Let me just say this: There's going to be a lot more to fuckbots than Levy imagines in his philosophy. While Levy foresees fuckbots that can be programmed with voices, eye colours, or "particular personality traits" that their owners/mates find sexy, I foresee a future in which every last unrealizable fetish or fantasy is suddenly within the grasp of all—well, not all. The first few generations of fuckbots will most likely be available only to the superwealthy and/or those willing to spend a small fortune on a visit to a robot brothel. But the coming of fuckbots is going to make fantasies that are currently unrealizable for reasons of biology,

logistics, or morality suddenly very, very realizable. Including yours, DRAGON, if you should be lucky enough to live so long.

As for your supposed-to-be-straightness...

I've got a file full of letters from supposed-to-be-straight guys—guys with wives and girlfriends and a passion for pussy—angsting at me about their urge to suck a little cock now and then. Many of these guys prefer to suck cock that isn't attached to anything recognizably male—e.g., shemales, transvestites, *American Idol* contestants, et al.—because it somehow makes their gay desires less troubling, less destabilizing, less, you know, gay.

Your passion for male-on-male dino-dragon porn, DRAGON, may be motivated by the same subconscious impulse. You don't want to let go of your supposed straightness but you're actually turned on by "the cock," as the kids like to say. And by seeking out porn that features non-human males, you don't have to confront your hunger, however mild, for cock.

I'm a straight woman and I've been with my boyfriend for four years. The sex is great, but we recently began to experiment with anal. He enjoys it, he takes his time and warms/lubes me up, but it is still painful. I don't let on because I know how much he gets off. Any tips for a beginner? *Silently Whimpering*

Smoke pot, SW. Don't break any laws, of course, but if you're using lots of lube, if he's going very, very slowly at the start, and if you've read Tristan Taormino's *The Ultimate Guide to Anal Sex for Women* (twice), you might want to smoke a little bit of pot—just a little bit—before you give it another go.

And pot or no pot, SW, you must tell your boyfriend that, whatever

he's doing back there, it's not working for you. THAT'S AN ORDER. Read or reread Taormino's book, and then try some other positions, more or different lube, longer warm-up sessions, anal-play sessions without any expectations of penetration, and, of course, a consciousness-raising session that involves you doing the boyfriend's ass with a dildo that's roughly the same size as his dick.

I've been reading your column for a few months, Dan, and I'm wondering a few things. What are your academic credentials (if any) that qualify you as some kind of sexpert? I suspect you have none. Are you a guy or a girl? Judging by the bias of your answers, my guess is that you're a woman. Are you straight, gay, or bi? Single, married, or divorced?

I'm sure your readers would love to know the answers to all of these questions. However, I suspect you haven't got the balls to print this letter.

P.S.: The Playboy Advisor replies to all questions submitted (even those he doesn't print). Do you?

Chaz The Spaz

SAVAGE cont'd pg. 43

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SEX • SEXUAL ASSAULT MONTH | 847 words

Carly Milne's Sexual History



MY MESSY BEDROOM JOSEY VOGELS
SEXOGRAPHY COVERS ONE WOMAN'S SEX LIFE, FROM BIRTH TO SEXUAL-ASSAULT SURVIVORHOOD

Raise your hand if you knew that April is National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. That's what I thought. Though it has been recognized in some provinces since as far back as 1988, most of us probably pay more attention to the fact that it's playoff season. Hey, talking about sexual assault is a downer, right? Can't survivors just get over it and move on with their lives? Besides, most of them probably did something to ask for it. Or they probably made up or at least exaggerated what happened to them.

Sadly, these persistent attitudes towards sexual assault are the very reason why we need to devote a month to remind people of just how prevalent and very real sexual assault

is. Unfortunately, too many people think that feminists "took back the night" back in the early '90s and we could safely put that whole business on the back burner and focus on less slobber causes.

And it's true that, according to Statistics Canada, the number of reported sexual assaults went down about 7.3 per cent between 1998 and 1999 but considering only about six per cent of sexual assaults are even reported to the police, that's hardly uplifting news. A METRAC (Metropolitan Action Committee on Violence Against Women and Children) Violence Against Women Survey found that 51 per cent of all Canadian women have experienced at least one incident of sexual or physical violence in their lifetime. And contrary to popular belief, you are more likely to be assaulted by someone you know than by a stranger lurking in the bushes.

So yes, sexual assault is still very much an issue.

And if you're someone who has experienced it, know someone who has experienced it, or simply want some real insight into the experience, you must read Carly Milne's *Sexography*, a detailed (at 400+ pages, very detailed) chronicle of one woman's life—a life that experienced incest, sexual abuse and rape—from victim to empowerment.

Milne, who spent her childhood being shuffled between Edmonton and Calgary, found herself wondering why nobody had ever written anything about what they learned about sexuality from birth to present day.

"There were always snippets of stories that said things like, 'Carol was raped at 15 and went through

therapy to get through it, and now she leads a happy sexual life!' What was her life like before the rape? How did she feel while it was happening? What did she think and feel about her sexuality?"

Milne provides this context and, with raw honesty and even humour, tells her sexual story, from the awkwardness of the first time she touched a penis ("It was sort of soft, but cold. And a little slimy. Kind of like a frozen slug... I walked all the way home rubbing my hand on my jeans, my jacket, anywhere I could to get the penis-feel off of it") to first-time disappointment ("I didn't regret having sex with Cody but wasn't it supposed to feel... I don't know, earth-shattering? Stupendously amazing? Wasn't I supposed to dissolve into a quivering mass of tears because I'd just Become a Woman? I still felt the same for him, but all I could think about at that moment as whether or not that evening's rerun of *The Arsenio Hall Show* was going to be one I'd already taped").

Milne wrestles with the complex issues surrounding inappropriate sexual behaviour, grappling with the subtleties, the grayness of it all. The "my word against his" stuff. The guilt. The self-doubt when your abuser is someone who is supposed to love and protect you. Maybe you did make it up.

Ironically, it was a brief stint reviewing porn for a company—during which she was handed a video version of Staci Haines 1999 book *Healing Sex: The Survivor's Guide to Sex*—when the light went on for Carly. The film talked about how different people react in different ways to sexual trauma and offered body/

VOGELS cont'd pg. 43

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SAVAGE (cont'd from pg. 41)

Look up "advice" in the dictionary, CTS, and it says, "opinion about what could or should be done." The only qualification you need to offer someone your opinion, of course, is having been asked for it. As my mail comes addressed to me, I am uniquely qualified to offer advice in this space.

Look my ass up on Google, CTS, and it says that I'm a fag. I've been with the same guy for 13-plus years, we're husbands in Canada, boy-friends in the United States, and our young son's loving parents wherever the fuck we go. I have never claimed to be a "sexpert," whatever that is, and while I do not doubt that The

Playboy Advisor is a better man than I in every respect, the volume of mail I get prevents me from answering every one of them personally.

I am a 23-year-old female whose boyfriend has a piss fetish. By this I mean that he enjoys it when I urinate in his mouth. While this is not something I find erotic, I have no issue with indulging him. My only problem with it is that I don't like to kiss him afterward because of the taste. I can't stand it. Is there a tactful way to ask him to brush his teeth afterward without completely ruining the mood? Thank you very much

for your help.

Embarrassed Non-Urine Fan

Seeing as there's no tactful way to ask someone to piss in your mouth, ENUF, you're under no obligation to be tactful about asking your boyfriend to brush his damn teeth. Saying, "Go brush your damn teeth, piss-boy, and you better be back here before I decide to eat asparagus at every meal for the rest of my fucking life," in a low and sexy voice should not only do the trick, it will ensure that his dick is still hard when he gets back.

Hey, everybody: Thank you so much

for all the thoughtful condolence e-mails after the death of my mother. Your good wishes, to say nothing of the many pictures of your boy-friends' butts, lifted my spirits. My tickets to the Friday night performance of *The Drowsy Chaperone* in Chicago—they were supposed to be mother's birthday present—wound up going to a lovely and very deserving mom. And I got to see the show

too—thanks to Ted at Broadway in Chicago—at Sunday's matinee.

Download *Savage Lovest* (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at www.thestranger.com/savage_mail@savagelove.net

VOGELS (cont'd from pg. 42)

mind exercises to once again become fully sexual. Just this year, Haines came out with an updated second edition of her book, now retitled *Healing Sex: A Mind-Body Approach to Healing Sexual Trauma*, and I'd say it's required reading for anyone who has suffered sexual trauma or abuse.

That's because it's not just about surviving; it's about restoring the

pleasure associated with sex, something that is unfairly robbed from you by sexual trauma.

In an online article by Jenny Block in the April 11 issue of *The Huffington Post*, she writes, "I forget sometimes how lucky I am. How lucky I am to have been able to come into my sexuality the way I have, without abuse, without religious fervor, without judgment. But as I am having that

thought, as I am writing it down, I feel sick to my stomach. Why should I feel 'lucky' to be in a situation that all women (all people) should be in? Well, because I am. That's the ugly truth about it. And too many women are not so lucky."

A good thing to be aware of, not just this month, but all year long.

ASTROLOGY • APRIL 24 TO APRIL 30 • BY THE KID | cruisinthecosmos@hotmail.com

CRUISIN' THE COSMOS

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20)

Don't fear a wee bit of depression, dearie 'cause transformation don't occur until you get a lil' teary. Heck, if you were happy all the time, every day, then you wouldn't change in any way and the same boring person you'd remain. They call 'em "wisdom" teeth 'cause they come not just with age, but with pain!

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 19)

Lately, it seems there's been a break in the previous flow of give 'n' take, and it's startin' to make you so mad, you shake. Well, don't let it send you up the bend this weekend. Your faith is bein' tested, so don't go and get bested over whether or not the egg in your nest is big enough yet. Relax. Things'll only seem worse the more you fret!

TAURUS (APRIL 20 - MAY 20)

They say it ain't easy goadin' bulls into blowin' their cool, but once they reach boillin' point, look out — they'll bust up the joint! Well, that classic Taurus feature could beat ya this week, since that knowledge ain't unique. Watch out for someone who'll try to get your goat — they're hopin' to upset you and capsize your boat!

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUNE 20)

This week, the cosmos is not only gonna give you a great big ol' gun, but it'll take you to a shootin' range and teach you how to use it, too. Now that you're packin', you've gotta keep in mind the prime purpose of such firepower — protection. Use it otherwise and you'll incur quick karmic correction!

CANCER (JUNE 21 - JULY 22)

You're facin' the same dilemma as an art thief who has a foolproof plan to make off with the Mona Lisa. Whaddaya do once you do? You can't sell it, 'cause it's hotter 'n Satan's sunburn. Heck, you couldn't even let anyone see that you own a da Vinci at all, so you might as well let it stay on the Louvre's wall!

LEO (JULY 23 - AUGUST 22)

You lions and that damn pride of yours! Well, you've gotta learn to see defeat as a treat and a chance to have learned at a master's feet. This week, every night and every day, make a mantra outta the old cliché: "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." You won't have to keep repeatin' it very much longer!

VIRGO (AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22)

Sometimes the rat race is a short sprint, and sometimes it's a relay in which you pass the baton for a teammate to go on. Well, Virgo, hope your energy ain't too low, 'cause this week's rat race is gonna be an enduro. In other words, you won't win by skill or by speed, but by how little rest you need!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22)

This weekend, you'll be tempted to act like some wiener head who stands beside a well and gives everyone hell for tryin' to take your glass of water. News flash! Who cares what you've got in your cup, if they can go to the source and fill their own up? Instead of enemies, make friends, so you can find more water when this supply ends!

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21)

With the moon bein' square to you for a few days, you'll be staggerin' around in a bit of a haze. Now, before you run to the first light you see, make sure it says "exit" not "get yours here free." Ain't nobody gettin' nothin' for free. This week, don't follow any ol' impulse at all, and look before leavin', or you're in for a fall!

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21)

Imagine you play for your country's soccer team, and winnin' the World Cup has been your life's dream. Now some NFL slicker's offerin' you the job of place kicker, so the dollar signs in your eyes light up 'n' flicker. Well, if you stayed and played you'd become a national hero. Is it worth tradin' that and your dream in for a number with zeros?

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19)

You're like a kid who walks onto their first movie set — you'll get one of your biggest surprises yet, when you see that what you thought was solid and good is actually a facade made with cheap balsa wood. You've learned a lesson in superficiality. For that, you'll give thanks and realize those guys shootin' at you are just usin' blanks!

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18)

There's a lot to be said about ignorin' your head and goin' strictly with the feelin' in your gut, but your instinct ain't as infallible as you think. That's why you were born with both. This week, inspect and reflect upon your actions' effects before makin' 'em, and you won't have to spend so much time sortin' things out in the wake of 'em!

The SHERLOCK HOLMES Pubs

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PromotionsSPECIALSNewsletters

Entertainment

Apr 21 - Apr 26
WEM - Jimmy Whiffen (April 21-24)
- Randy Raines (April 25-26)
Downtown - Chuck Brown
Capilano - Duane Allen

Apr 28 - May 3
WEM - Jeff McCann
Downtown - Chuck Brown
Capilano - Tony Dizon

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...on tap

DAILY HAPPY HOUR SPECIAL
Watch your favorite Sport on our Large Screen.

We book for private functions.
For BIRTHDAYS, OFFICE PARTIES, REUNIONS, or any celebration.

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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Thursdays & Fridays
LYLE HOBBS

Saturday
KARAOKE (starts @ 9:00 pm)
www.edmontonpubs.com
Subscribe to our e-newsletter for promotions & more!

The Drowsy Chaperone Pub

130. Coming Events

HUGE INVENTORY Garage Sale at United Homes Canada, 148 East Lake Blvd., Ardrie, May 3 from 12 - 6 p.m. and May 4 from 10 - 3 p.m. Free BBQ lunch!

PELLETIER Guitar & Music Camp, Birch Hills, Saskatchewan, Held July/August. All ages, beginner to advanced. Guitar, bass, fiddle, drum lessons. Info: 430-749-2498, www.freddypeletier.com.

190. Announcements

FARMERS AND ACREAGE owners, Help ARROG meet the world wide demand by growing a Medicinal Herb called Rhodiola rosea. For info visit www.arroga.ca. Call 780-933-0199.

HELP YOUR CHILD overcome math problems. Our online grade 9 mathematics prep test will make the difference - guaranteed. Your kid will learn faster, better, cooler. Sign up www.fun-kymath.com.

HOCKEY AAA Summer Program, Open tryouts. Boys 9 - 16, Edmonton Kintwin Arena, May 10 to 11. Website: www.cypresslimerwolves.com. Office 780-623-5543.

HUGE RUMMAGE SALE, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 101 St. & 84 Ave., Fri April 25th, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Sat April 26th, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm. Small Furniture, Clothing, Household, Books, Toys, Treasures. Free Admission!

2001. Acting Classes

Eight Minute Date Speed Dating for Singles

Sat, April 12 at Jo's Ages: 20-30, 30-40 & 40-50

Wed April 30 at The Gallery Bar Ages: 32-39, 40-49, 52-59

Register at 427-6535 or www.eightminutedate.ca

200. Business/Invest. Oppor.

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY to own your own pet food business, turnkey for under \$10K. For more information call Julia Mutch toll free 1-877-738-3287 ext. 217 or 604-518-7706. www.rpless-ranch.com.

AAIM LOANS, Money now. Over the phone approvals. Debt consolidation, first, second, third equipment, mobile, builder, Interim. Anywhere in Alberta. 780-484-9232. Fax: 780-484-7345.

BARTER AND BENEFIT TradeWine! Offers venture capital, alternative source financing, increased cash flow, presale and expansion solutions. Projects from \$1000, and up. www.tradewins.biz. Andrew 403-396-7845.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY! All equipment needed to build self framing metal buildings, trawler and header buildings, shops, garages, etc. Take advantage of the boom before others. Great returns. Call Gene 1-306-842-3288.

FLOWERSHOP, Greenhouse, Garden Center in East Central Alberta. Well established 24 years. Large trading area, owner retiring, good family operation. Phone 403-578-3340, Fax 403-578-2240. Email: chrispm@telusplanet.net.

HOTTEST NEW offroad product! Edmonton company seeking individuals or businesses in rural communities to sell and promote our inexpensive and super fun Offroad Gokarts. For details/pictures call Brent 780-993-9453.

LOW INVESTMENT/high return, Part-time/full-time. Driveway Sealing Systems, line painters, hot boxes, hot pour crack machines, blowers, asphalt preservative products. Call toll free 1-800-465-0024. Visit: www.protectaphalt.com.

200. Business/Invest. Oppor.

NEED EXTRA CASH? Get a \$1000/week at home stuffing envelopes. Rush self addressed stamped envelope to Box 3861, Spruce Grove, AB T7X 3B1.

NEED MONEY FAST! Immediate approval. Credit, age, income and no barriers, debt consolidation, interim financing, home purchase, small business start-up. Consolidated Mortgage and Loans. Members 888 1-872-465-6565.

PET LOVERS join Multi Menu, free home delivery pet food & accessories, marketing & support, no royalties, exclusive territories, 150 franchises in Canada; www.mulinu.ca. Free seminar, call toll free 1-877-462-0055.

SMITTY'S FAMILY Restaurant for sale in Melfort, Saskatchewan. Sales and profit growth every year! Owners looking to retire. Call Al at 306-752-9335 to inquire.

THE UPS STORE® - Franchise opportunity available. Join Canada's largest network of neighbourhood business service centres. For more info visit www.theupsstore.ca or call 1-800-661-8232.

400. Courses/Classes

FREE LIFE SKILLS COURSE

For people 18 years of age or older and who have a low income.

Location: 13325 St. Albert Trail

April 14 to May 23

Monday to Friday, 10am - 2pm

Develop and improve skills in the following areas: Confidence, Starting and Improving Relationships, Self Awareness, Stress and Change, Problem Solving, Effective communication, Employment Preparation and Literacy and computer skills. and more! Program is accessible by ST. Albert and Edmonton. Tel: 513-4000 or 454-9656. For more info about CHRYSALIS, please visit our website: www.chrysalis.ab.ca

Make money with your voice! Any level. Workshops, direct, private available. 718-4394 or www.creatingvoices.com

9700. Support Groups

Had Enough?

Cocaine Anonymous 425-2715

410. Education/Training

LEARN HOME STAGING with our comprehensive distance education course. Get professional instruction, hands-on practice, and a certificate from ISPR certified. Free brochure. Call 1-800-267-1829, www.qcdesignschool.com.

500. Tenders

FARMLAND FOR SALE by public tender. Smoky Lake County, Alberta. SE 24 19 W 14, NW 24 19 W 14. For more info call 1-780-358-2832.

1005. Help Wanted

Edmonton newest live music venue looking for all positions. Door to Bar Manager. Experience Preferred. Contact derek-praught@shaw.ca.

Part Time Saturdays 10-5, Vespucci Ladies' Secretariat. Contact Carol at 451-1562.

Sales assistant F/T for Edmonton book publisher \$25-32k, benefits. Microsoft Office required. Post secondary and sales experience an asset. Excellent work environment, computer literacy, competitive wage, benefit package. resumes info@onepinepublishing.com

Shippers/Receiver for Edmonton Warehouse Grade 12, Lit 45k, over 3 yrs experience, fork-lift, computer literacy, competitive wage, benefit package. resumes info@onepinepublishing.com. Fax 433-9646.

1005. Help Wanted

TA Productions is looking for bikini waitresses, dancers and entertainers. Call 455-4666. www.ta4u.com

the best shot on whyte is now hiring Fashion Retail Management and Sales Staff. Love fashion & body mods? Dig vintage? Email resume to orl@vinesplanet.com or stop by and see Lisa at the shop. Rad work environment, benefits & other cool stuff.

1500. Help Wanted - Alta.

2008 FIRST PROVINCIAL EMS Job Fair, Alberta Ambulance Association, May 6, 2008, 10 - 5 p.m., Holiday Inn North, 6500 - 67 St., Red Deer, Alberta. For info contact Jean Sandham; aaoa@shawbiz.ca.

4TH YEAR Journeyman Mechanic, Competitive wages, benefit package. Email resume to to43r@telus.net or fax to 403-845-2862. Trail Braker Trucking 2007 Ltd., Rocky Mountain House, Alberta.

A FREE HOOKUP Need a phone? Everyone approved. Not happy with your current phone provider? Switch for free and keep your same number. 1-877-852-1122. Protel Reconnect.

ASSISTANT MANAGER, Excellent opportunity for someone experienced in retail flooring industry. Salary commensurate with experience. Good benefits package. Strathmore Flooring Concepts. Fax 403-934-4962 or email: gbleier@telus.net.

ATTENTION! Agricultural Journeyman Parts and Service Technicians. Do you know the John Deere Industrial Equipment dealers pay up to 30% more in hourly wages? Why not join the Brandt Tractor team at one of our 5 locations in Alberta or 21 locations across Western Canada. We are also seeking resident technicians in Drayton Valley, Lac La Biche, Wainwright, Camrose, Vegreville, Cold Lake, Bonnyville and Westaskin. Brandt has been recognized as one of Canada's top 50 Managed Companies for the past 3 years. If you want a great career with a rapidly growing and dynamic company, send your resume to Brandt Tractor Ltd. Attention: Greg Davidson, 10630-176 St. Edmonton, AB, T5S 1M2. Fax 780-489-6891; ckland@brandttractor.com.

ATTENTION MOM, dad, singles. Work from home, earn above average income. Leave message at toll free 1-877-494-4633.

BAKERY/DELI MANAGER, High Level Super A. Reporting directly to the Store Manager. The Bakery/Deli Manager is responsible for all aspects of successfully managing the Bakery/Deli department. Applicants must possess previous retail experience in a food store, combined with excellent customer service. Bakery experience would be considered an asset. The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate initiative and strong leadership skills. A minimum Grade 12 diploma (or equivalent) and a Clean Security Clearance also required. If you have the skills and the abilities to meet our expectations, forward your resume in confidence to: Store Manager, High Level Super A, High Level, AB, T0H 1Z0. Fax 780-928-4620; tylone.pariseau@tpp.ca. Only those applicants considered for an interview will be contacted.

BLCS Limited has employment opportunities. Qualified journeyman electricians, mechanics and other related building trades. Apply to Al Lahure. Phone 1-867-793-2831. Fax 1-867-793-2577. Email: al@blcs.ca.

CRUISE SHIP JOBS, Earn up to \$5000 - \$3000/week. All expenses paid. Now hiring for all positions. Free info: 613-834-4456.

1500. Help Wanted - Alta.

BLCS LIMITED requires qualified people for the administration team. Accountant, (CA/CMA). Strong financial management skills, good understanding of programs and software, demonstrated accounting skills. We also need a Construction Superintendent. Candidates must possess strong leadership skills. Send resume: al@blcs.ca. Fax 867-793-2537. Call Al (voice) 867-793-2531.

CARPET and LINO installers needed for busy flooring store in Whitecourt. Competitive wages and benefits package. Call 780-778-2383 or fax 780-778-3061.

CHEAPER than a tank of gas! Telephone Reconnect only \$39.95/month! Switch, keep your number! High-speed and dial-up internet available! Phone Factory Reconnect. 1-877-336-2274, www.phonefactory.ca

COMPANY SEEKING a Field Clerk with valid driver's licence required for work in Northern Alberta. Responsible for performing advanced clerical and receptionist duties. Prepares and maintains sales, equipment and supply records. Offering overtime, subsistence and accommodation. Fax resume to 780-488-3002 or email: wade@raidersconcrete.com.

COMPANY SEEKING experienced concrete finishers and form setters, with current and quiet experience an asset, and construction labourers. Offering top wages, overtime, subsistence, accommodation. Fax resume 780-488-3002 or email: wade@raidersconcrete.com. Phone 780-425-6208.

DRIVER, Class 1 licence. Good wages, scheduled days off, benefits, full-time. Only foothills experience needed. Trail Braker Trucking 2007 Ltd., Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. Email resume: trailbr@telus.net.

DRIVERS NEEDED immediately, Athabasca, Alberta area. Full-time employment, log and gravel haul, accommodations available. Competitive wages. Call 780-212-0153, or fax resume to 780-525-2121.

ELECTRICIANS, IP Construction for long-term contract at underground mine. 14 on/off schedule, competitive wages, overtime, R&B, travel. Fax resume 1-807-597-6820 or jessica@tramin.ca; www.tramin.ca.

EMERALD TRUCKING, High Prairie, Alberta is currently seeking Class 1 Drivers, Vacuum Truck Operators and Heavy Duty Mechanics. Fax resume to 780-523-5833.

FARM HELP Farm Manager plus Farm labourer required. Both positions require the ability to run all types of machinery. Full-time. Wages to be based on experience and overtime is paid. Call Gene 306-842-3288.

HARRIS REBAR, the largest employer of union reinforcing ironworkers in North America will provide paid training and employment as reinforcing ironworker apprentices in Edmonton. Within a year you could be earning in excess of \$33 per hour plus benefits. Applicants must have a minimum grade 10 education, have own transportation, and live in or be willing to relocate to Edmonton. Fax resume to A. Bruene at 1-780-986-9011 or email to: abruene@harrisrebar.com.

HAVE FUN making money as an actor or film extra on Calgary movie sets. All ages required. 403-521-0077.

HEAD PRESSMAN to operate 2 unit Goss8 unit DGM community print press. Team player with great attitude. Competitive wage, benefits. Lori Engel. Fax 780-460-8220; lengeli@greatwest.ca.

1500. Help Wanted - Alta.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT REPAIR in Slave Lake, Alberta requires heavy duty mechanics. Stable work environment. Competitive wages and benefits. Call Herb 780-849-3768. Fax resume 780-849-4453.

HORIZON MECHANICAL is seeking journeyman plumbers, sheet metal mechanics, apprentices. For immediate positions in Bonnyville, Hinton area. Camp work available. Call 780-825-2770. Fax 780-823-2587.

INTERESTED in the Community Newspaper business? Alberta's weekly newspapers are looking for people like you. Post your resume online. FREE. Visit: www.awna.com/resumes_aad.

KINETIC PROJECTS is a premier construction and maintenance firm providing services for Oil & Gas, Utility and Power, Petrochemical and Forestry industries. Kinetic offers a progressive work environment, permanent positions and competitive wages. We are a Merit company offering a comprehensive benefit plan. Kinetic is currently seeking the following individuals to join our Ponoka Fabrication Facility. Journeyman Welders (Tackling experience) up to \$41.30 per hour. B Pressure Welders. (By hand only) \$49.50 per hour. (Night shift premium \$4.00 per hour extra). Qualified applicants are invited to apply online at www.kinpro.ab.ca or email to hr@kinpro.ab.ca. Fax 1-956-466-6355. While we thank all applicants, only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. Rates include 4% holiday pay and 6% vacation pay at regular time. Gemini Corporation is listed on the TSX Venture Exchange under the symbol GKX.

NEWCAST CONTRACTING 1999 Ltd. is looking for experienced welders and pipelayers, labourers and tower hands, safety hands. Must have valid safety tickets. Fax resume to 403-729-2396 or email to resumes@newcastcontracting.com.

OLDFIELD TRUCKING COMPANY in Provost, Alberta requires picker truck operators, which truck drivers and swamper/labourers. Top wages and bonuses with benefits package and a savings plan. Phone 780-753-2976. Fax 780-753-4880.

REPORTER/EDITOR, Weekly rural newspaper. Reporting, story support, feature, photo, photography, pagination, Adobe Photoshop InDesign. Experience an asset. Apply w/references. Bob Agard, Vegreville, AB, T9C 1R6. Email: info@vegobser.com.

RV TECH, Minard's Leisure World, Weyburn, Saskatchewan is looking for a RV tech or person with RV mechanical/general maintenance experience. Preference given to qualified individuals but are willing to train the right person. Gene at 1-877-842-3288 or fax resume to 306-842-0707.

TELE-COMMUNICATIONS Construction Company requires fiberoptic splicers for long and short term positions in B.C. Contractors welcome. Contact or fax resume to 250-372-8964.

TIRE MAN Required for Tirecraft in Grande Cache. Phone 780-827-3224 or fax 780-827-4278.

WEBCO LEDUC, a commercial printing plant and newspaper, located in Leduc, Alberta requires full-time compositor. Knowledge of InDesign, Photoshop a must. Email resume to kellyw@webcoleduc.com.

WEBCO LEDUC, a commercial printing plant and newspaper, located in Leduc, Alberta requires full-time press technician. Strong computer skills and ability to multi task a must. Email resume to kellyw@webcoleduc.com.

1500. Help Wanted - Alta.

WELDERS - All levels of welders needed to join our rapidly expanding company. Offering overtime, competitive wages, benefits, RRSP's and apprenticeship opportunities. Apply to: Do All Metal Fabricating, Estevan, SK. Email: jorkt@doallmetal.com. Fax 306-634-8623.

WHISTLER, BC massage therapists and estheticians. The Avelo Spa & Health Club located in the Westin Resort & Spa Hotel is looking for experience massage therapists and estheticians with strong customer service skills to join our team. Email resume to: hr@whistlerspa.com.

1600. Volunteers Wanted

Amnithon 15 Needed: Projectionists, General Volunteers. Contact: shaungraton@gmail.com.

Attention Volunteers! Action for Healthy communities works to improve the health of communities, and we need you. To volunteer with our community building projects, call Alexis. 944-4687 or www.ahnc.ca.

Calling volunteers for the 12th Annual Dragon Boat Festival Aug 22, 23 & 24. Louise McKinnon Park, Free T-shirt, hat, meals & refreshments provided. Prizes & Awards. Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Lignan. Visit our website www.edb.ca or email us at edbf907@gmail.com

Do you like to drive? Volunteer to drive fuel but walking seniors around Edmonton. Daytime Mon-Fri. We pay the gas! 732-1221

FUN VOLUNTEERING! The Works Art and Design Festival wants YOU June 20-July 2. Contact Cathryn Cummings at 780-425-2122 ext. 230. volunteer2@theworks.ab.ca, or <http://www.theworks.ab.ca/website/volunteer/volunteer.html>

HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS required for studies with the Brain Neurobiology Research at U of A (407-3906). Reimbursement provided.

Make a difference in your community. ElderCare Edmonton is looking for volunteers to help with daily activities such as crafts, card games and socializing. If you can spare a few hours each week and would like to have fun, call 434-4747 Ext.4

Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton requires volunteers for Crisis Line. Contact Erin at erinn@sacae.ab.ca, 432-4102.

Take advantage of this volunteer experience of a lifetime! Become a friend to a NEW Canadian and share a life changing experience. Contact Dulani at 474-8554

The Brain Neurobiology Research Program at U of A is seeking MAJOR DEPRESSION sufferers who are interested in participating in a research study. Please call 407-3906 if interested.

The Crownwest Reader Book Drive & Sale is just around the corner March 30, April 6 & 25-27 and Volunteers are needed. Raise a Reader is a program that raises awareness and funds for children's literacy in Edmonton. Volunteers are awarded \$200 towards book purchases!! Contact Jordan at 421-7233 to volunteer.

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton is presently recruiting volunteers for the Court Assistants for Female Youth (C.A.F.Y.) Program. This program matches mentors to act as positive role models and provide support to female youth who have involvement in the Youth Criminal Justice System. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or in obtaining additional information, please contact Christine at 427-4060.

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton is presently recruiting volunteers for the Court Assistants for Female Youth (C.A.F.Y.) Program. This program matches mentors to act as positive role models and provide support to female youth who have involvement in the Youth Criminal Justice System. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or in obtaining additional information, please contact Christine at 427-4060.

1600. Volunteers Wanted

Volunteer for the Coronation Triathlon on May 25th. Call Anna at 496-4935 for details.

Volunteers are needed for a University of Alberta research study on the experiences and coping of people who have been victimized by identity theft. If you are 18 years of age or older, have been recently discovered that you are a victim of identity theft, and are interested in volunteering, please contact Dr. Jessica Van Vleet at (780) 492-5864 or e-mail IDTheftStudy@ualberta.ca. Participation in this study will be strictly confidential.

Volunteers needed for Picture This...film Festival. April 30 and May 1, 451-6921. Visit www.sbhana.org/pift.htm.

2003. Artists Wanted

Blackbird Studio #5 1330 15 Ave SW, Calgary, AB is looking for a third custom tattooer to join a crew of two. Contact Karrie for info. myspace.com/karriebomb, or www.blackbirdstudio.com.

CITY OF SURREY National Call for Public Artists Catalysts, Connections, & Intersections Five Public Art Projects for the City of Surrey, BC These exciting opportunities will explore our natural, built and cultural heritages, and become lasting legacies of Surrey-2000 Cultural Capital of Canada.

Art budgets: \$100,000-\$130,000

Deadline for First Stage Submissions: Thursday, May 08, 2008

Suicide prevention group, Blue wave, is looking for music and performance arts pieces on the topic of youth troubles, depression and suicide to develop into a revue to perform at local high schools. All serious inquiries call Alyssa at 780-432-3747, or email Debbie at debbanews@yahoo.ca

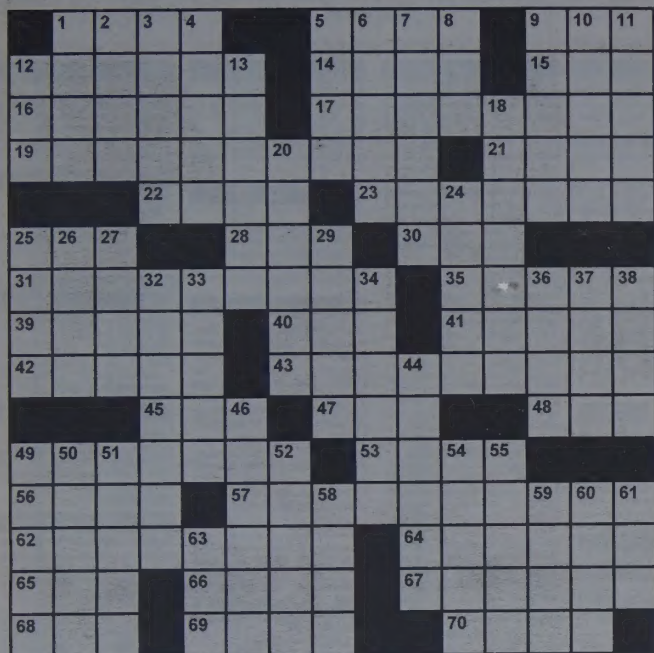
2005. Artist to Artist Call To Enter: The Works Art & Design "Smaller Than a Bread Box Exhibit. Dimensions must be able to fit into a space that is no bigger than 3X3X6. Artwork can use any material. All entries will be exhibited during The Works Festival June 20-July 2, 2008. Applications can be downloaded from The Works website www.theworks.ab.ca. Applications due by May 15, 2008.

Call To Enter: The Works Art & Design "Smaller Than a Bread Box Exhibit. Dimensions must be able to fit into a space that is no bigger than 3X3X6. Artwork can use any material. All entries will be exhibited during The Works Festival June 20-July 2, 2008. Applications can be downloaded from The Works website www.theworks.ab.ca. Applications due by May 15, 2008.

Call To Enter: The Works Art & Design Festival 1st Annual chalk Art Contest, June 28 & 29 at Sir Winston Churchill Square. Registration Forms can be downloaded from www.theworks.ab.ca. Mail all registration forms to: Suite #200, 1225-100 Ave Edmonton, AB T5J 0A1. Deadline to register: May 15, 2008 at 5pm.

Darkroom Space Needed I need a space that I can use as a darkroom for an upcoming project. The space doesn't have to be very big, needs running and will have to be light tight capable. Will possibly exchange for photography services with artist with extra studio space. Please email: michael@commonmagpie.com

Looking for Local artists to donate art for charity auction for www.human.org for June. Please contact Jeannette ASAP jean@ualberta.ca.



TOP CERAMIC BRIDAL
ECO AMEN MODULE
AER BUENOS AIRES
PANDA FOR SOLOS
ONIONS TIP TIVO
TIERACK AUSTEN
SARA HIKERS YRS
CLUTENTAG
ABO PLINY BOSS
LOGUST SOLICIT
ABOS ZAP NEPALI
SHEER SOS GENIC
KONITICH TWAG AKA
APTTEST SINE DOI
NESTER EGAD ANT
SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

HARD BODY

SEVEN PARTS OF ONE

JONESIN' CROSSWORD BY MATT JONES
©2008 Jonesin' Crosswords (editor@jonesincrosswords.com)

- ACROSS**
- 1 Punjabi prince
 - 5 Part of ASL
 - 9 Lawyers' org.
 - 12 Paid parkers
 - 14 Ctrl-S function
 - 15 With 65-across, lack of musical ability
 - 16 Reluctant (to)
 - 17 Negative pressure ventilator, familiarly
 - 19 "All the Right Reasons" band
 - 21 Biblical murder victim
 - 22 Connecticut's oldest university
 - 23 Give off, like pheromones
 - 25 George Gershwin's brother
 - 28 "Dinner & a Movie" network
 - 30 Droop
 - 31 One of Flavor Flav's many
 - 35 Buffalo, by another name
 - 39 Studio sign
 - 40 "Heart & Soul" one-hit wonder 1
 - 41 Cartoon dog with two rings for a collar
 - 42 There's no accounting for it
 - 43 Trout variety
 - 45 Paving material
 - 47 Actress Longoria Parker
 - 48 Org. adding the Seattle Sounders FC in 2009
 - 49 Took the steering wheel
 - 53 Soul singer Redding
 - 56 Paul Simon's wife Brickell
 - 57 What clogs need, per "Glenngary Glen Ross"
 - 62 Fast driver's metaphorical feature
 - 64 FedEx alternative
 - 65 See 15-across
 - 66 "Twister" director Jan de
 - 67 Full of small rocks
 - 68 Golfer Ernie

- 69 Ingvar Kamprad's company
70 Government agency "launched" in 1958
- DOWN**
- 1 Morah's dad
 - 2 Oldest of the Baldwin brothers
 - 3 Meat in a convenience store
 - 4 Confused
 - 5 About 30% of all land
 - 6 Anthony and Chagall
 - 7 Conjures up
 - 8 He sometimes smacks Stimpny
 - 9 "Like ___ train up your spine" (Pink Floyd, "Cymbaline")
 - 10 Stanford ___ IQ test
 - 11 Geometry measurement
 - 12 It'll get you moving
 - 13 Provide goods for, like a vendor
 - 18 Pretty big
 - 20 Dances wildly
 - 24 Intriguing group
 - 25 "___ the Feelin'" (James Brown song)
 - 26 "Mazes and Monsters" novelist
 - 27 Wistful word
 - 29 "808.88.98" techno group
 - 30 808 ___
 - 32 Repeated the last statement
 - 33 Apply medicine to
 - 34 ___ rancheros
 - 36 Mushroom piece
 - 37 Like some traditions
 - 38 Bobblehead doll actions
 - 44 Exhausts, as time
 - 46 Schedule for another date
 - 49 Martinique volcano
 - 50 Optimal

- 51 They're not on the level
- 52 Annoying hum
- 54 "Peer Gynt" playwright
- 55 Carnival rhythm
- 58 Word before "boy" or "girl"
- 59 Test sites
- 60 Jaime Murray, on "Dexter"
- 61 Furtive
- 63 "___! Open up!"

TOM the DANCING BUG

By RUBEN BOLLING

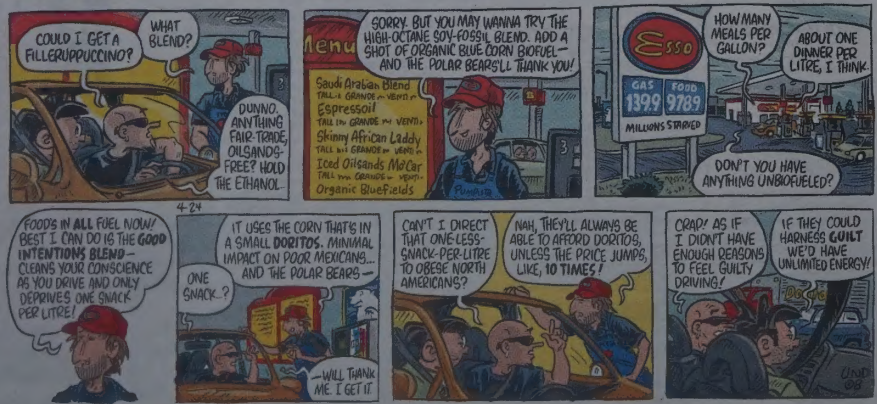


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INTERSECTIONS • PHOTOS OF OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS



Wally Asselberghs from Belgium teaches the art of Naked Raku during a workshop sponsored by the St. Albert Potters Guild on Saturday.
PHOTO BY MARC BENCE

t8n

FIRST PERSON • EDMONTON STORIES • BY D. JEFFREY BUCHANAN | 791 words

My Big Fat Eco-Ignoramus

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT THE PLANET, BUT HONESTLY...

If you wave your hands quickly in front of your face while spinning on one heel and screaming the lyrics to Madonna's "Papa Don't Preach," you might be able to summon up some of the good feeling that last summer's big Live Earth concert/event/marketing opportunity left in its wake.

A little while before Live Earth landed, award-winning Edmonton environmental researcher and Carbon Busters president Godo Stoyke published the *Home Energy Handbook*, a pocket bible providing clearly worded, practical marching orders for the born-again environmentalist or the newly aware eco-warrior.

Godo's kids and my kids happen to go to the same school. When I wheeze into the school parking lot in my old Swedish carbon sled, a blistering 14 blocks from my 1,000-watt home, I find it hard not to start apologizing before saying good morning to Godo.

Godo's handbook promises not only

to help reduce a typical family's carbon emissions by as much as 73 per cent but also to illustrate the dollars and cents of it all. Well, that's what it says on the back cover. I haven't read it. But my wife has. A lot. And like the traditionally misinformed sociopolitical environmental armchair activist that I am, I listened passionately to weeks of "Did you know that this uses more energy than that?" followed by "You really should read this book."

Yes, I should. I should also read the parenting books that find their way into my home. I don't read those either. Sorry, kids. Maybe if they had titles like *Yes, You Are Becoming Your Father or Scared For Life* they would be a little more inviting.

But despite my failure to make a dent in my reading list, as a parent and human who lives on and off of this planet, I consider it my responsibility to try to do more, to be better, and to continue the evolution of

our species. Which is why I get concerned about coffee.

Coffee adds a sense of continuity to daily life for many, me included. We brew it with ritual and a deep sense of need, but it too falls prey to the slide rule of Mr. Carbon Buster. Well, I think it does. I'd ask my wife but she's asleep right now.

The world listened to Live Earth and changed because of a momentary euphoria that even I was trying not getting caught up in. You couldn't argue with the numbers. You couldn't argue with the fact that the simple information that they passed on was easy to understand, easy to implement: with that big an audience, there was the hope that the event might have significant impact on the environment. It would be hard to be anywhere in the modern world at that time and not hear the voice of the planet Earth, especially in an environmentally progressive city like Edmonton.

So I began to spend precious pre-coffee morning moments trying to determine if it was more environmentally sound to reheat the cup of coffee that I hadn't finished the night before or to waste the used water and make a new pot. I was trying to come up with some kind of energy conversion chart that considered used coffee, microwaves, drip coffeemakers, water filtration, and melting polar caps.

One day, as I wrestled with this

computational dilemma, I found myself behind a large old pickup truck stopped at a red light two carbon-belching vehicles ahead of mine.

As I was sitting there thinking about how far I still had to go for good old Mother Earth, the driver of the truck rolled down his window and threw out an empty coffee cup. I had one of those out-of-body experiences that you just can't understand until you've had one. I watched this polystyrene cup fall over and over again in slow motion from the slightly open window of the truck to the pavement. I wanted to jump out of the car, pick up that cup and bang on that truck window, but with my two boys in the car, what could I do?

The truck pulled away with the traffic. I couldn't even stop and pick up the cup.

I could understand why someone wouldn't watch the Live Earth Concert or why they might not be inspired by Madonna. I can understand that carbon footprints or the most environmentally sound way to make coffee might not be on everyone's personal horizon. I can also understand why someone might not want to read a book that plainly illustrates the selfish choices they knowingly make on a daily basis.

But I will never understand how someone can roll down the window of their vehicle and throw an empty cup into the street.

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